

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 41

Section 1

November 28, 1941

BUILD FOR THE FUTURE, SAYS EVANS

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Illinois Agricultural Association in Springfield, November 28, R. M. Evans, AAA Administrator, said: "The world today is strewn with the wrecks of democracies which tried to find their security in the past. We must find ours in the future. But we cannot build our future unless we understand the present...Man builds ships to ply the seven-seas and exchange his goods. Then, frightened by these goods, he builds trade barriers and ties the ships at anchor. With his radio, he talks to men on the other side of the world, men closer to him in time and thought than were the opposite boundaries of his own country 50 years before. Then, at home, he uses his radio to preach nationalism and racial hatred...The conflict today is a world-wide civil war. And we are in this struggle because -- no matter how wide may be our oceans nor how high our tariff walls -- we are still a part of the world."

URGE CANNERS TO RAISE 1942 PACKS OF 4 VEGETABLES

New York Journal of Commerce, November 28: Sharp increases in the 1942 pack of the four major canning vegetables above this year's requirements for tomatoes, peas, snap beans and corn, will be necessary to meet domestic demand during the 1942-43 season according to estimates under study yesterday in Washington by over 100 growers and canners and Extension specialists from more than 30 States. Estimates include possible export goods as well.

Estimated needs (based on standard cases of No. 2 cans) are as follows: Canned tomatoes, 44,000,000 cases; canned peas, 42,000,000 cases; canned snap beans, 14,000,000 cases; canned corn 25,000,000 cases. These estimates, which are tentative, include needs for domestic uses including military and school lunches; special requirements, including lend-lease shipment and stockpiles; and--in the case of tomatoes, snap beans, and peas--additional supplies needed to bring carryovers from the 1942 pack up to normal in the next season.

SEED-FOR-BRITISH DRIVE LAUNCHED

A drive for \$300,000 with which to buy and ship to the British seeds for gardens was launched yesterday by the British War Relief Society of New York, says the New York Times, November 28. The plan was endorsed by the British Ministry of Agriculture. The campaign, says Samuel A. Salvage, honorary chairman of the society, is to sell 300,000 packets of seeds to Americans at \$1 each. The packets will then be sent to England, with the name and address of the donor. Each packet, carefully selected after tests of germination in English soils and climate will contain seeds to plant 1/2 to 2/3 of an acre, to produce enough vegetables for one family for a year.

Idaho Starch
Plants Use Cull
White Potatoes

Carloads of cull white potatoes, a former waste product of farms, will be fed into two new starch plants which started operation in October in Idaho, thereby adding about 20 tons of starch a day to the nation's supplies and bringing \$280,000 a year to farmers. The plants, at Blackfoot and Twin Falls, will use about 19,000 tons of cull potatoes apiece in a year, paying a base price of \$3 a ton plus a bonus. (Science News Letter, November 22.)

Propagation
of Cuttings
by Mist Spray

Working at the University of Kansas, James Reiter, a grower, has been successful with the rooting of difficult cuttings under a fine mistlike spray, says George M. Fisher, of the University of Kansas, in an article in Southern Florist, November 21 (reprinted from Florists' Review). "Mr. Reiter claims no originality in rooting cuttings under mist," says Fisher, "except for the variations in the system developed to fit local needs and conditions. This system has long been in use by some florists and nurserymen, but is seldom used on the large scale employed at Lawrence, Kansas, where the entire summer propagation program has been converted to this method.

"Among plants accepted as difficult to propagate by rooted cuttings, such as poinsettias, lantanas and others, we have consistently had 100 percent success.....Under the mist system poinsettias will root in 12 to 14 days when treated with a root-inducing chemical and in 13 to 18 days without treatment.....Our cuttings of lantana now root 100 percent in the mist in 10 to 12 days, with no apparent difference between treated and untreated cuttings....The technique has possibilities in application along other lines of greenhouse and nursery work."

Corn Combine
Investigations

Acceptance by farmers of the recently invented "corn combine"—which cuts the stalk, picks off the ear and shells the corn—will depend upon the use eventually to be made of the corn, believe R. F. Skelton and H. P. Bateman, engineers of the Illinois College of Agriculture. By eliminating the elevating and stationary shelling operation, the new method makes it possible to harvest corn at less expense with the picker-sheller than by most other methods, it was found in tests conducted on 13 Champaign County fields. It cost \$1.90 an acre to harvest, haul and shell 100 acres of corn with the corn picker-sheller compared with \$2.60 an acre with a regular two-row picker. The new machine had a capacity of 1½ acres an hour, or 12 acres in an 8-hour day.

However, because the moisture content of the corn shelled in the field by the picker-sheller is too high to store right away, it is usually necessary that the corn be sold from the field. For this reason, the engineers believe that the number of farmers using the picker-shellers will be limited until storage and drying problems are solved. (Urbana report in Farmers Elevator Guide, November.)

Control of
Soybean
Speculation

In a special report to Secretary Wickard, J. M. Mehl, CEA Chief, says that a recent survey of futures trading in soybeans indicates need for further control of speculative activity in this commodity. "The erratic price movement, the large volume of trading, and the size of aggregate open contracts during the current year, together with a special analysis of these contracts as of September 15, all point to excessive futures speculation in soybeans," the C.E.A. report states. The survey disclosed no evidence of abnormally large positions held by individual speculators on either side of the market.

Philippine "BAI"
Aids Food for
Freedom Program

Taking a cue from the emergency measure adopted by the United States in the grave international situation, the Philippine Government has started a campaign to increase food production for emergency purposes, says Gregorio San Agustin, director of the Philippine Bureau of Animal Industry, in Agricultural-Industrial Monthly (Manila, October). "In this connection," he says, "the Bureau of Animal Industry will promote principally the raising of poultry and pigs."

Aralac Made
in Connecticut

In an article on aralac the recently announced casein fiber, Pennsylvania Farmer, November 22, says: The fiber is made at Toftville, Connecticut, by a special manufacturing division established by the National Dairy Products Corporation. Present production capacity is about 5,000,000 pounds a year--the recoverable casein content of about 160,000,000 pounds of skim milk.

Livestock
Feed from
Citrus Wastes

An article on conversion of citrus wastes into stock feed appears in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, says the New York Journal of Commerce, November 25. In the article F. J. Van Antwerpen, of New York, who has just completed a study of the citrus-waste problem, says: "In Florida, during the 1941-42 season, about 33,000 tons of feed for dairy and beef cattle will be produced, representing about 350,000 tons of raw waste from 15,000,000 field boxes of fruit..." When grapefruit is processed for either sections or juice, there is left from each field box an average of 50 pounds of wet peel, rag, and seed: from oranges, the corresponding weight of the wet waste is approximately 60 pounds. Formerly the canneries paid from .5 to 1 cent per box of fruit packed to have the waste carted away. This amounted to a hauling and spreading cost of 20 to 40 cents per ton of waste.

India's Jute
Crop Reduced

The 1941 production of jute in India, including Nepal, is estimated at 5,422,555 bales of 400 pounds, less than one-half of last season's crop. Final forecast places total area at 2,132,000 acres as compared with preliminary forecast of 2,212,500 acres, according to a report from the American Consul at Calcutta. India has long supplied the world's jute requirements, producing practically the total amount of jute fiber grown in the world. Province of Bengal produces 80-90 percent of India's jute. (Foreign Crops and Markets, November 24)

Urges 9-Point
Livestock
Program

University of California Clip Sheet, November 20:

A nine-point program designed both to aid the food for defense drive and protect California livestock producers against the "lean years of the future"

was presented by Louis H. Rochford, sepcialist in the California Extension Service, at the 1941 convention of the California Farm Bureau Federation.

Rochford's nine points were: Put into operation a selective breeding program, follow a systematic culling program to remove inferior and aged animals, maintain normal nutrition for breeding stock and provide necessary feed for continuous gain of young growing animals, make maximum use of pasture crops, conserve feed resources on both cultivated and range lands, watch costs of gain in the feed lot, guard the health of animals, employ sound marketing practices, and observe fundamentals of good management.

Md. Defense
Relocation
Corporation

Financial assistance to Maryland farm families displaced by Army acquisition of land has been assured with the establishment of the Maryland Defense Relocation Corporation, with a capitalization of

nearly \$1,000,000, says an AP report in the Baltimore Sun, November 23. J. H. Wood, FSA northeast regional director, in announcing formation of the corporation, said \$948,188 will be borrowed by the corporation from RFC. From that fund, \$912,000 will be set aside for purchase of land. Remainder will go toward management, equipment, technical services, and maintenance. The new corporation will buy family sized farms near defense areas and lease them to farm families unable to reestablish themselves independently. Later the farms may be sold to the lessees on long-term purchase contracts. T. A. Pasto, Gregory Hewett, and N. R. Quesenberry, of FSA, have been named as directors of the corporation.

N. C. to have
Crop Variety
Testing

The North Carolina Crop Improvement Association and Experiment Station have started a series of crop variety tests on a regional basis, says Dr. L. D. Bayer, of the State College. "North Carolina is

the first southern State to promote this type or work on a comparable scale with the Corn Belt States," said Bayer. "The variety tests are designed to bridge the gap which exists between plant breeders and farmers." He said official variety tests are being established at six locations in widely scattered sections of the State. The new program was made possible through an appropriation by the 1941 general assembly. Commercial companies will cooperate in the variety program, which will include hybrid corn, wheat, oats, barley, cotton and soybeans.

Britain to
Prevent Land
Speculation

The British Minister of Agriculture has stated that steps have been considered to prevent speculation in farm land. He pointed out that no new regulations were necessary with respect to farm land

purchased for investment, since the Government had already announced that any land purchased for that purpose might subsequently become subject to public acquisition or control and that compensation in the event of such procedure would not exceed the value of the land on March 31, 1939.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 42

Section 1

December 1, 1941

FARM PRODUCTION PRICES, INCOME RISE: COSTS INCREASING

Farmers are bringing to a close their best year since 1929 with production, prices, and income at high levels, the Department reported today.

Purchasing power of farm products reached parity in late autumn, but only as a general average.

Many products continue to sell below parity, including cotton, corn, wheat, oats, peanuts, rice, apples, and eggs. Commodities selling at or above parity include tobacco, beef cattle, hogs, chickens, butterfat, wool, and veal calves.

The year-end analysis by BAE shows a rising consumer demand for farm products and prospects that food production in 1942 will be the largest on record. Both prices received and prices paid by farmers are expected to average higher than in 1941. Recently, prices paid by farmers have been rising more than prices received, lessening the purchasing power of farm products.

FTC CHARGES SHEFFIELD WITH UNFAIR PRACTICES

New York Times, Dec. 1: In a complaint issued by Federal Trade Commission, Sheffield Farms, Inc., of New York, one of the country's largest distributors of fluid milk, was charged yesterday with unfair competitive practices in connection with its purchases of milk products from producer cooperative associations. The complaint alleges that while the association's avowed purpose is to act as a means for its members to bargain collectively with the company for the sale of their milk and thereby obtain higher prices than would otherwise be possible, it had in many instances utilized its domination and control of the association to prevent accomplishment of that result.

FPA SURVEY ON U.S.-ARGENTINE TRADE PROBLEMS

New York Times, December 1: Prompt action on shipping and priority problems, to supplement the recent trade agreement between United States and Argentina, is necessary if the accord is to strengthen commercial and political ties in the Western Hemisphere, says a survey just issued by Foreign Policy Association. The survey, written by John C. de Wilde, of the association research staff, declares that the agreement itself will remain a "relatively unimportant factor in shaping trade between the two countries," but "action taken on shipping and priority problems will primarily determine the extent to which Argentina and the United States will be able to take advantage of tariff concessions they have made to each other."

FISH IN "FOOD FOR FREEDOM"

(Washington Post, December 1:) Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, says that in event of wartime emergency, the annual supply of fish for food could be increased "almost immediately" by 185 million pounds. That would bring the national supply to 4,628,000,000 pounds, and in a few years it could be raised to 6,200,000,000 pounds, he said.

Agricultural
Adjustments
in Wartime

J. B. Hutson, President of CCC, in an address on "Agriculture in a World at War," at the Colorado Farm Bureau convention, Denver, November 28 said:

"The diversity of agricultural resources in the United States and its proximity, as compared with other surplus-producing areas, to the United Kingdom, suggest that the agricultural plant of the United States will be called upon to make the major contribution in the adjustments necessitated by an all-out defense or war effort...

"It appears that shift of production from commodities of which there is a surplus, such as cotton and wheat, to commodities for which there is an increased need, such as meat, fats and oils, dairy and poultry products will be worth all its costs. Our own people want more of certain kinds of food when they are at work and able to buy more. Over and above this, the right kinds of food must be available for those who are holding the lines. The question is - will those fighting for the survival of the democratic ideals be vigorous and well-fed or listless and half-fed? The answer to this question depends in large part upon the action taken by farmers in the United States."

Article
on "Rise
of USDA"

"The organic act founding the Department of Agriculture directed it 'to acquire and to diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with agriculture in the most general and comprehensive sense of that word,' " says T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, author of "The Rise of the United States Department of Agriculture," in Scientific Monthly, December. "Hence, throughout its history it has collected, discovered and diffused knowledge about agriculture with increasing effectiveness. The gradual changes in its structure have always reflected basic changes in our national agriculture. The department has been required to respond to public needs as the demands of the public caused Congress to enact new agricultural legislation.....

"The development of the department's work proceeded as logically and as inevitably in response to the needs of the people voicing their demands as does the growth of a tree in the soil in response to the factors of its environment...Its present existence in modern streamlined form has made it an invaluable agency in operating the National Defense Program, for it has ready at hand the organization and the machinery to do effectively many tasks which were neglected or were undertaken hastily in emergency set-ups during the World War."

Tomato Bread
Tested by Army

A new tomato bread has been developed by the Army Quartermaster Corps, says Fruit Products Journal, November. It is made by adding tomato juice or canned tomatoes to the dough mixture. It has a delightful flavor, is colorful, and is higher in vitamin content than ordinary bread. The tomato bread is still an experiment and not a standard item of Army fare.

U.S.-Mexican
Pact Would
Spur Trade

"The foundation for a strong inter-American economic and defense structure in the strategic Caribbean area is moving toward completion," says United States News, November 28. "Most important progress in months is the financial and trade agreement (to be negotiated) between the United States and Mexico. This settlement of old disputes--except for the question of payment for seized oil properties--improves relations with this country's nearest neighbor on the south, opens the way for increased trade. Benefits of the agreement, especially growth of trade, should help hemisphere unity materially... Trade agreement to be negotiated with Mexico as part of the general settlement will deal mostly with farm products. Mexico ships cattle, sisal, vegetables to the United States, probably could become a larger source of supply for tropical and off-season farm products."

Range Bulls
Bringing
Good Prices

(Western Livestock Journal, November 15.)

Range cattlemen indicated a willingness to pay highest prices in a good many years to acquire top quality range bulls at the Ogden Livestock Show. Many Hereford bulls were bought to go right out on the range at prices ranging from \$300 to \$525. This looks like a lot of money for a range bull, but it is interesting to note that most of the men who pay long prices for range bulls are the most successful operators. The salvage value of bulls no longer useful in the breeding herd is the highest in the history of the Pacific Coast.

New Grapes
from Geneva,
N. Y., Station

First prize for the collection as a whole and an award of merit for the Seneca in particular were won by a collection of sixty new varieties and unnamed seedling grapes exhibited by the Geneva Experiment Station at the annual fall show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Boston recently. Dr. George Oberle, grape specialist at the station, says: "Seneca is the most recently named white variety introduced by the station and we consider it the highest flavored seedling grape yet named by us. It is a beautiful grape, is almost a pure vinifera, keeps well, and ripens early." As in the case of all new fruits originated at the station, vines of the Seneca can be obtained from the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association at Geneva, which propagates and distributes the station's new fruits. (Fruit Products Journal November 1.)

To Test Drugs
as Trichinosis
Remedies

Science Service release, November 22: Sulfaguandine, one of the newer sulfa drugs, will be tried out as a possible trichinosis remedy in laboratory studies by Dr. O. R. McCoy, of the University of Rochester. Dr. McCoy's test of sulfaguandine will be made on rats. Calcium compounds also will be tested on guinea pigs, for possible trichinosis-curing ability. The tests are under the auspices of the New York State Trichinosis Commission.

"Beware A
Land Boom",
Says Black

A. G. Black, FCA Governor, in November Land Policy Review, lists five primary objectives of efforts to prevent runaway farm land prices. They are: "To make normal values a primary factor in all appraisals for farm real estate loans...To impress upon present borrowers the wisdom of making use of higher incomes now available for repayment of existing debts...To encourage farmers to build reserves out of higher incomes today to bridge the period when incomes are not so high, by offering inducements to borrowers to accumulate funds to meet future payments ... To avoid fostering speculative increases in production... To encourage sound use of credit to foster a better balanced agriculture that yields a higher and a more secure standard of living to the family farm."

Survey of
U.S. Flax
Production

Science Service release, November 8: Warren E. Emley, of the National Bureau of Standards, has made a survey of prospects for American flax production. He visited Oregon, where our linen flax is grown — our industry is there because no rain falls in July and August in the Willamette Valley. This enables the farmers to dry the flax in the open air. Mr. Emley also visited the Georgia School of Technology, where experiments in linen manufacture are under way, and went to New England, to confer with spinners and weavers and paper manufacturers. A report of his survey is to be published by the Textile Foundation, which has in progress a cooperative program with the Bureau of Standards.

Vt. Farmers
to Increase
Milk Production

Hardwick (Vt.) report in Rutland Herald, November 20: Vermont State Commissioner of Agriculture, E. H. Jones, said yesterday that Vermont farmers can supply the additional 5 percent production of milk requested by the Federal Government in its program of increased food production. He added, however, that the farmers are handicapped by lack of farm labor and drought conditions.

Use of REA
Electricity Up
80% in Year

An increase of 82 percent over the previous year in electricity delivered to consumers is shown in a Department report of REA-financed power systems for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1941. Consumers of these systems used 568,190,394 kilowatt-hours of electricity during the year, compared to 311,479,005 kilowatt-hours the previous year.

Other figures similarly demonstrate substantial development, said Harry Slattery, REA Administrator, in the report, which covers every phase of operations, including allotments, construction, and financial statistics of each of 823 systems.

Fats, Oils
Study

New York Times, December 1: A fundamental study of the nature of fats and oils will be conducted by the University of Pittsburgh under the first of the fellowships in nutrition recently offered by Swift & Company, it was announced November 30. Prof. Charles G. King of the University, known for his vitamin studies, and Dr. H. E. Longenecker, Buhl Foundation research fellow and assistant professor of chemistry, will direct the work.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 43

Section 1

December 2, 1941

DISINFECTANT MATERIALS DECREASING

New York Times, December 2: The nation is liable to revert to the unsanitary conditions of the 90's, when disease epidemics were commonplace, unless disinfectant manufacturers are permitted to obtain sufficient raw materials despite defense needs, W. J. Zick, president of the National Association of Insecticide and Disinfectant Manufacturers, warned yesterday at the opening of the association's convention in New York. Other speakers issued similar warnings during the sessions, at which the principal theme was the effect of defense requirements on the industry.

H. C. Fuller, the association's Washington consultant, said some manufacturers have stocked up on materials of which there is no shortage at present, such as borax and pyrethrum. Mr. Fuller said that supplies of pyrethrum (used in insecticides) were ample and that "more pyrethrum flowers were cropped in Kenya last season than could be taken over by the trade."

SHEFFIELD DENIES FTC COMPLAINT

New York Times, December 2: F. J. Andre, president of Sheffield Farms Company, Inc., denied yesterday the complaint issued in Washington Sunday by FTC that Sheffield was engaging in unfair competitive practices in its purchase of milk products from producer cooperative associations. Mr. Andre contended that Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative Association was "formed by the farmers themselves" and now was composed of 8,000 producers scattered over Pennsylvania, New York, and Vermont. He held that association members lived on their own farms and that "it would be impossible for one company to dominate them as a group."

HOUSE VOTES SUGAR CONTROL LEGISLATION

AP report in Washington Post, December 2: House voted yesterday to extend sugar control legislation three years to December 31, 1944, with amendments that would increase mainland cane and domestic beet sugar quotas and increase basic benefit payments. The vote was 134 to 32. The bill now goes to the Senate, where an identical measure was introduced November 7.

RETIREMENT BILL PASSES THE HOUSE

Washington Post, December 2: The Ramspeck retirement bill was unanimously passed yesterday by the House. Provisions of the bill include optional retirement of Federal and District employees at 60 after 30 years service; at 62 after 15 years; at 55 on reduced annuity after 30 years. Employee contributions are raised from 3 1/2 to 5 percent. The bill now goes to the Senate.

Argentine
Concessions
in Trade Pact

Louis C. Nolan, of FAR, writing in Foreign Agriculture, November, on the recently concluded U. S. - Argentine trade agreement, says: "Agricultural commodities included in the Argentine concessions to the United States are fresh apples, pears, and grapes; dried pitted peaches, apples, pears, and cherries; raisins (Corinth, Sultana, and Sultanina); walnuts (unshelled); leaf or cut tobacco; and cigarettes, basically an agricultural product....."

"Argentina normally is one of the most important markets in South America for United States nonagricultural products. The valuable concessions that have been given on machinery and other manufactured goods by Argentina will have a favorable reaction on many United States industries exporting to Argentina. To the extent, therefore, that a broader outlet for industrial products contributes to the pay rolls of factory labor, the demand for farm products will be increased. Meat, dairy products, and fruit are sensitive to changes in consumer demand."

Oregon Jersey
Herd Sets
U. S. Record

(Western Livestock Journal, November 15.)

The high-producing Jersey herd owned by Nash Brothers at Marshfield, Oregon has established a United States record for herds including 40 or more cows. Recently completed test showed an average of 591 pounds of butterfat per cow and is authenticated in a Herd Improvement Registry certificate issued by the American Jersey Cattle Club. Fifty cows were entered in the test and 26 of these were given "Star" ratings for their exceptionally high yields, seven having produced more than 700 pounds of fat each. With an average of 35 cows in milk daily throughout the test year, the average yield was 591.56 pounds of fat 10,105 pounds of milk per cow, with milkings three times daily.

Maps of Snow
Cabins to Be
Given Pilots

Army and commercial airline pilots flying over mountainous areas of the West are to be offered maps giving exact location of more than 140 shelter cabins maintained in higher and more inaccessible parts of the region, the Department says. W. W. McLaughlin, chief of SCS irrigation division, points out that most of the cabins - maintained by Federal and State snow-surveying agencies - are located far from any other shelter and might be the means of saving lives of aviators forced down in heavy snows of the Sierras, Cascades, Rockies, and other mountain ranges.

The cabins are stocked with food for one man for six weeks, fuel, and emergency first-aid kits. Each cabin is being supplied with skis or snowshoes and descriptions showing route and distance to the nearest ranch or village. Flares may be placed in each cabin for distress signalling.

Research
Policy
in USDA

Writing on the evolution of research policy in the U.S.D.A., in Medical Record, November 19, T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, says "Now that we are again at war the departmental research program is once more deflected in new directions. It faces complex problems

concerned with the food supply of the United States and its allies during the conflict, and the production of a "stock pile" of nonperishable food and other agricultural commodities for use in devastated countries when peace or temporary armistice again appears. The present Secretary of Agriculture suggests the slogan: Food will win the war and write the peace. The skill of the Department's scientists was never more urgently needed than now when agricultural production must be increased vastly without soil wastage, when commodities and materials formerly imported must now be produced here or substituted, and when post-defense programs and projects are already being planned."

Cushing Heads
BEPQ Division

Emory C. Cushing has been appointed to succeed Dr. F. C. Bishopp as chief of the BEPQ division of insects affecting man and animals.

Mr. Cushing was with the Texas Experiment Station before joining the Bureau in 1928.

Halifax to
Address AFBF

Ohio Farmer (Nov. 29): Viscount Halifax, British ambassador to the United States, will speak at the annual convention of the American

Farm Bureau Federation to be held at Chicago, December 8 to 11. He will address the convention at the banquet to be held the evening of December 10.

Tobacco Loan
And Purchase
Program

CCC will make available a loan and purchase program for 1941 crops of Burley, fire-cured, dark air-cured, sun-cured, Maryland, cigar filler, and binder tobacco. In addition, purchases of maximum of 500,000 pounds of dark fire-cured and dark air-cured tobacco of the 1939 crop, packed to meet requirements of British manufacturers, are authorized on a cost basis. Loan rates will average 85 percent of parity. The loans will mature October 1, 1943, payable on demand.

Farm Product
Prices Decline

The general level of prices received by farmers for agricultural commodities on November 15 declined 4 points from a month earlier.

The decline was the first since the price upswing began last April, but the index at 135 percent of the August 1909-July 1914 average still was 36 points above a year ago.

Fruit led the decline, prices of new crop citrus dropping sharply and more than offsetting advances in apple prices. Cotton and cottonseed prices dropped abruptly, and meat animal prices declined moderately. Gains were recorded for some commodities, especially chickens and eggs (up 11 points), grains and dairy products.

France Raises
Bread Price

Vichy wireless to New York Times, December 2:
The price of bread in France went up 25 centimes a kilogram yesterday. Since the year's appropriation to take care of any rise in the cost of bread was insufficient, the government announced consumers would have to bear a third of the total increase of 75 centimes. A new rule also has been issued requiring owners of milking cows to deliver to the supply services an average of three liters of milk daily per cow.

Canadian
Price Control
Effective

UP report from Ottawa, in Washington Post, December 1, says the Canadian Government today takes over the control of prices for virtually every commodity sold in Canada, in an attempt to prevent inflation from the nation's defense effort. The new law fixes as a price ceiling the maximum price obtained by any commodity during the basic period between September 15 and October 11, 1941. Only exceptions are fresh fruits, vegetables, and greenhouse products.

Railroads to
Conserve Metal

Report in the Washington Post, December 1, says the Association of American Railroads announced yesterday that the railway industry had agreed with OPM to limit construction of new locomotives and freight cars to certain designs, to conserve metals needed for defense. Among major points of the plan are: construction of new box, hopper, gondola and flat cars limited to certain designs now in use; substitution of other materials so far as possible for scarce metals in locomotive and freight car construction.

Artificial
Breeding
Associations

National Dairymen's League News, November 25:
Artificial breeding associations are now operating in 22 counties of New York State. They are all managed and directed by dairy farmers. There is one large central cooperative that gives service throughout the State, and plans are to breed 10,000 cows during the next fiscal year.

Would Aid
World Science
Organizations

Science Service report from Cuba in the New York Times, November 28: Transfer of the scientific and cultural societies of the world to the Western Hemisphere was forecast by the second Pan-American Congress on Intellectual and Cultural Cooperation which met recently in Havana. The congress, representing 19 American republics, voted to invite to the New World the International Scientific Union, with headquarters in London, International Union of Academies, formerly in Brussels, International Committee of Historical Sciences, International Library Association, and all other world cultural associations suffering from war conditions.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 44

Section 1

December 3, 1941

NAME T. ROY REID
DIRECTOR OF
PERSONNEL

Appointment of T. Roy Reid, of Arkansas, as Department Director of Personnel was announced yesterday by Secretary Wickard. Mr. Reid, a veteran agricultural worker, has served for the last several months as Chief Assistant to the Secretary. As Director of Personnel, he succeeds Roy F. Hendrickson, recently appointed SMA Administrator and Director of Marketing. Secretary Wickard designated Samuel B. Bledsoe to be Chief Assistant. Mr. Bledsoe is now an assistant to the Secretary.

Mr. Reid entered the Government service in 1918 as County Extension Agent in Arkansas. He was Assistant Director of Extension Work in Arkansas from 1923 to 1935, and also in charge of AAA work in Arkansas from 1933 to 1935. From 1935 until last spring, when he came to Washington he was FSA Regional Director with headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas.

SPAB TO SPEED
SHIPMENT OF TIN
PLATE FOR CANS

Copyright report by New York Herald Tribune, in Washington Post, December 3: SPAB agreed last night to speed shipment of 218,600 metric tons of tin plate to Latin American countries to relieve shortage of this important metal necessary for canning of foodstuffs. Tin plate, formerly purchased by Latin American republics from Germany and England, has become so scarce that some canneries producing foodstuffs have shut down. Mexico and Chile have been particularly hard hit. Licenses for export of tin plate to Western Hemisphere nations have been revoked as of December 15.

The announcement said the tin-plate policy of SPAB, adopted at the request of the Economic Defense Board, "constitutes the first step in a simplified program designed to assure delivery of essential commodities to meet import needs of Latin America." The shipments also will help in canning essential foodstuffs shipped to England and United States.

ABERDEEN ANGUS
STEER NAMED
GRAND CHAMPION

Chicago report to New York Herald Tribune, December 3: An Aberdeen Angus steer, bred and raised by Purdue University and named Loyal Alumnus 4th, yesterday was chosen grand champion of the 1941 International Livestock Exposition. The show was attended by 15,000 spectators. For the first time in the history of the show, two champion corn growers were picked after judges were unable to choose between them. The judges also were stumped in selecting winners of the national 4-H Club health contest and instead of the usual one boy and one girl, chose three girls and two boys.

OCT. COTTON
CONSUMPTION
SETS RECORD

Cotton consumption totaled 954,000 bales during October, compared with 876,000 for September and 771,000 in October 1940, says November Cotton Situation. This is the largest consumption for any month on record and equivalent to an annual rate of about 10-2/3 million bales. Mill consumption (excluding mattress cotton) also established a new record of nearly 41,700 bales per day compared with about 40,200 in September and the previous high of 40,700 bales per day in May. (This issue of Cotton Situation contains a special article on the American-Egyptian cotton situation and outlook.)

Latin American
Trade Fairs
to Tour U.S.

Business Week, Nov. 22, says two traveling Latin American trade exhibits have been organized, to promote U.S. demand for South American goods.

A Peruvian National Exhibit, which includes textiles, furniture, glassware, ceramics, carved wood, blankets, gloves, and art, will be shown at leading stores during December and January, at Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Boston, Philadelphia, and New York. Macy's in New York, will stage a Latin American fair, opening the middle of January. The fair, which will include a large collection of goods from South American republics, will tour from coast to coast when it closes in New York.

Civil Service
Examinations

No. 165, unassembled: senior floriculturist \$4,600; senior olericulturist \$4,600; senior plant pathologist, \$4,600; EPI. Applications to be on file by January 3, 1942.

No. 162, unassembled: principal chemist (explosives) \$5,600; senior chemist (explosives) \$4,600; chemist (explosives) \$3,800; associate chemist (explosives) \$3,200; assistant chemist (explosives) \$2,600. Applications to be rated as soon as practicable after receipt; when sufficient eligibles are obtained, receipt will be closed and notice given.

No. 163, unassembled: principal chemical engineer \$5,600; senior chemical engineer \$4,600; chemical engineer \$3,800; associate chemical engineer \$3,200; assistant chemical engineer \$2,600. Announcement cancels No. 42. Civil Service Commission has shortage of eligibles in following specialized branches: agricultural by-products, plastics, rubber, strategic minerals, plant layout, equipment design, market analysis, chemical economics, heavy chemicals.

Migrant Problems
Call for Some
Federal Aid

In an editorial on the migrant problem, the Washington Post, November 27, says: The remedy is already at hand. Through a nation-wide system of public employment exchanges, the Federal Government is beginning to direct the movement of job seekers to an increasing extent. Employers are urged not to bring in new workers from outside areas if labor can be found in the neighborhood. Workers, in turn are told where employment openings exist, and where not to go. Migratory movements resulting from the seasonal character of agricultural labor, of course, create special problems both for work seekers and communities. That, too, is a situation calling for Federal aid.

150th Anniversary
of Bill of Rights

The Office of Civilian Defense calls attention to the 150th anniversary of the Bill of Rights, ratified on December 15, 1791. The Susquicentennial Anniversary is being celebrated through the Nation in accordance with a joint resolution of Congress and a proclamation of the President.

Simplification
of Packages

The food industry, in common with a number of others, is considering simplification of packaging so as to conserve scarce materials and skilled labor, says an editorial in New York Journal of Commerce, November 24. Some manufacturers have redesigned packages also to reduce the number of sizes and types. Consumer resistance, if any, can be overcome by intelligent advertising which will explain what is being done and why. Modern packaging has done much to make the distribution of foods more sanitary and efficient, but multiplication of container sizes and types has gone far beyond what is necessary in an era of scarcity of materials and skilled labor.

USDA Testing
Mastitis
Treatments

Dairy farmers who try to treat mastitis in their herds by injecting medicinal preparations up the teat canal and into the udder are likely to do more harm than good, the USDA says. Some investigators have found that certain chemicals, introduced into the udder through the teat canal, appear to cure one of the common forms of mastitis in a considerable percentage of cases. Some of these treatments show promise, but tests are still under way at several State experiment stations and in the USDA animal disease station, Beltsville.

"Food for
Freedom"

America's farmers are being told that food will win the war, says editorial comment in Dallas News, November 21. But this time there is less danger than before the increased food production will lead to disastrous overexpansion in farm acreage. The present need is for pork and eggs and dairy products, the output of which can be increased without a big jump in acreage. Federal acreage control already in force will tend to check overexpansion that might result from war conditions.

Improvements
in Nutrition
Programs

In an address on "Social Implications of Vitamins," in Science, Nov. 28, Dr. R. R. Williams, Chemical Director of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, says: "The first attempts at reform of mass nutrition have been inaugurated within recent months. They began with the British decision in July of last year that under the stress of war the staple bread of its people should not continue to be emasculated by refining of the grain till its nutritive quality is demonstrably impaired. Like action in the United States was inaugurated last November, partly under the influence of the British Example.

"In both countries, retention of the natural nutrients of the grain is encouraged, but in order that some prompt mass effect should be achieved the use of synthetic restoration of the nutrients is permitted. This has the effect of preserving the whiteness of the bread, a quality still demanded by popular taste, and so avoids the long postponement of an effective remedy. In America three vitamins, thiamin, nicotinic acid and riboflavin, as well as iron, are required to be added to flour or bread which is artificially 'enriched'. These are nutrients which naturally occur in grain and are known to be more or less widely lacking in the American dietary."

FSA Constructs
Prefabricated
"Dormitories"

Business Week, Nov. 22: Construction specialists on the Pacific Coast are studying techniques used by FSA in building prefabricated, plywood, two-story dormitories to house single defense workers in Vallejo and San Diego, California, and Bremerton, Washington. Business interest in the "knockdown" barracks -- 140 feet long, 26 feet wide, housing 78 men -- was stimulated recently by an FSA announcement in San Francisco that when the defense emergency is over the structures will be demounted and the prefabricated parts moved to the San Joaquin Valley to be re-assembled into single-family, two-bedroom dwellings to house migrant farm workers.

The Vallejo job includes 19 dormitories to house some 1,482 men. Buildings are being erected (with standard plywood interchangeable parts from fabricating plants in Oakland and San Diego) at an average rate of one every nine days. Besides single and double bedrooms, equipped with bed lamps and radio outlets, dormitories include a lobby and lounge on the ground floor, and showers and toilets. Furniture and linen are furnished.

Short Tubed
Clover Fails

Wallaces' Farmer, Nov. 29: Another attempt to improve red clover pollination in Iowa ended in failure. For the past two years, agronomists at Iowa State College have been trying out a short-tubed European clover strain in hopes it would prove more attractive to honey bees than regular American strains, thus resulting in setting of more seed. Repeated observations on bee flights proved that the strain with a short corolla tube was visited less often than domestic clovers, and had a significantly lower percentage of seed set.

Year-Around
Poultry
Production

Editorial in Rural New Yorker, November 29: "Raising chickens the year around is becoming an approved method of keeping laying flocks at high production during the entire year. Chicks are raised in late summer, fall and winter, and produce when the spring pullets slow down. Cockerels from these hatches meet the growing demand for broilers...At the Purina Experiment Farm, Gray Summit, Missouri, year-around rearing of pullets has been under test for several years. The plant has a capacity for 3,000 layers, and pens are kept filled with potential producers. The following figures show yearly production from chicks hatched at different times: January chicks, 203; April, 218, July, 218; October, 221. These results indicate an increased income of \$85 per 100 hens over the plan of once-a-year hatching."

Fairs Tell of
Food for
Freedom

Secretary Wickard, in an article, Fairs and the Food Fifth Column, in the Billboard November 29, says: "This year throughout the country exhibits at fairs are telling the story of Food for Freedom. They are telling it step by step--the why, the what and the how--in simple understandable terms. More than four-fifths of the USDA exhibits brought out some phase of the major themes. The individual States and other public and private agencies also made their contributions. The men at the head of the nation's fairs, through their cooperation in this educational effort, are performing a service to the nation."

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 45

Section 1

December 4, 1941

OCTOBER RURAL
BUSINESS IN
SOUTH AT RECORD

New York Herald Tribune, December 4: Department of Commerce announced yesterday that all regions of the country contributed substantially to the extremely high October volume of general merchandise sales in small towns and rural areas. Largest relative expansion was recorded in the South, where rural general merchandise business exceeded all previous records. In all regions, however, the October rise was less than the usual seasonal expectation and the Department's seasonally corrected regional indexes, which measure small-town chain-store business and mail-order sales, receded for the second consecutive month.

VACCINATION AIDS
CONTROL OF
BANG'S DISEASE

Strain 19 Brucella abortus vaccine developed by BAI to combat Bang's disease of cattle is proving a useful adjunct to the test-and-slaughter plan, Dr. John R. Mohler, BAI chief, said December 4 at Chicago to the U. S. Livestock Sanitary Association.

Vaccine is given to animals between 4 and 8 months old. Experimental field studies by BAI and cooperating States showed 96.7 percent of calvings by 13,888 animals previously vaccinated were normal. Blood tests also have indicated high resistance of vaccinated animals to infection, when they were exposed by contact with infected cattle. (Copies of the complete report are available.)

N.J. SOCIETY
REPORTS FARM
LABOR SHORTAGE

Atlantic City report in New York Herald Tribune, December 4: The New Jersey State Horticultural Society at its annual meeting yesterday adopted a resolution requesting the legislature to amend the law to permit children of school age to work on farms during the increasing shortage of farm workers due to the national emergency. It was pointed out that attendance at city schools "is taking much of our Italian labor back to the city at a time when harvesting crops, especially peaches and tomatoes, is often at the peak".

NEW BEPQ
ASSIGNMENTS

Sievert A. Rohwer, assistant chief of BEPG, has been placed in charge of regulatory work and William Lee Popham has been appointed assistant chief in charge of control operations.

N.J. to Produce
More Food
for Freedom

AP report in New York Times, December 4: New Jersey's 1942 farm production will exceed the 7 percent increase in eggs and 3 percent more milk requested under the Food for Freedom program, Charles A. Collins, chairman of the USDA defense board for New Jersey, predicted yesterday. Mr. Collins, a Moorestown horticulturist, based his prediction on nearly complete returns of a survey by 225 agricultural committeemen. Referring to the Government's request for 3 percent increase in vegetable acreage, Collins said: "Some slight increase is indicated, but availability of farm labor next season is expected to be the determining factor".

Dental Test
Measures Vitamin
Deficiency

New York Times, December 4: By a simple new test, the dentist can now determine if bleeding gums are caused by vitamin C deficiency or some other condition, Dr. Walter H. Eddy, professor emeritus of physiological chemistry, Teachers College, Columbia University, reported yesterday to the Greater New York Dental Meeting. Dr. Eddy predicted that before long clinical tests would be available for testing deficiencies in essential vitamins, just as clinical tests are now made for insulin insufficiency or defect in liver function. He also said a new science, called geriatrics, had evolved from vitamin studies as a treatment in old age.

Health Survey
of Low-Income
FSA Families

Only 4 out of every 100 low-income farm people are in first-rate physical condition the Department estimates on the basis of a health survey covering 2,480 FSA families in 21 typical counties in 17 States. A total of 11,947 men, women, and children were examined. Ninety-six percent had significant physical defects. For the group as a whole, the number of physical defects averaged 3 1/2 per person.

"These findings throw an entirely different light on the traditional picture that all farm people are husky," said Dr. R. C. Williams, USPHS Senior Surgeon and FSA Chief Medical Officer. "The survey shows that years of poor diet and low income take their toll in rural health. The arresting fact brought out by the survey is that many of the physical defects of these people could have been prevented or remedied."

Warn Against
McClave Soybean

Wallaces' Farmer, Nov. 29: Farmers are warned by crop specialists of Iowa State College to avoid seed of the McClave soybean variety. According to H. D. Hughes, head of the farm crops department, the McClave bean is now being peddled over the Corn Belt at premium prices and is being represented as a superior new strain. Actually, says Hughes, the so-called new McClave is indistinguishable in plant and seed characteristics from the old Midwest variety, which was discarded years ago on account of low yield, low oil content, late maturity and a tendency to shatter badly.

Canadian
Hosiery

Ottawa report in Business Week, Nov. 22: The Canadian War Industries Control Board has just authorized an equipment priority preference for expansion of a Canadian nylon yarn plant, but the government is said to have stipulated

that the new production is to be mainly for war purposes. The silk-freezing order of some weeks ago has badly crippled the Canadian hosiery trade and production has been reduced to thrown silk, Bemberg, viscose, and mercerized cotton yarns. Supplies of real silk hosiery will be pretty well exhausted by the end of the year. With recent advances of 10 to 15 percent in prices of cotton yarns, the new price-freezing order will bear heavily on the knitting industry. Worsted yarn prices are now up 50 to 60 percent above prewar levels although most of this advance occurred before 1941.

Low Rainfall in the East

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, December 3: The close of November marked a full 3-month drought in the eastern area, most of which has had less than half of normal rainfall for the fall season. Extent of the drought is shown by the fact that the following scattered stations have had only from 25 to 50 percent of normal rainfall for the period: New York City, Trenton, N. J., Philadelphia and Harrisburg, Pa., Baltimore, Md., Washington, D.C., Lynchburg, Va., Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh, and Wilmington, N.C., Columbia and Greenville, S.C., and Augusta and Atlanta, Ga.

Soil Erosion in Hawaii

Soil erosion is a critical factor in the economy and production of Hawaii, a territory which is becoming increasingly important to the welfare of the United States, says Frank E. Egler, of New York State College of Forestry, in Science, Nov. 28. "Water is the most important product of the forest of Oahu island", he says "and forage is the most important product from the large areas of non forested and non-agricultural lands of this and other Hawaiian islands...Present techniques of reforestation in this zone have not been successful and knowledge of the requirements of soil-binding species and of a complex plant succession is necessary. The problem commands the ingenuity of conservationists, and upon it hinges the greatly increased productiveness of large acreages in a country where productiveness is becoming more critical."

Books on Vitamins in Meat

North American Veterinarian, December, contains a review of a book, the Vitamin Content of Meat, by H. A. Waisman and C. A. Elvahjem of the University of Wisconsin. "This book," it says, "comes at an opportune time when special emphasis is being placed upon nutrition as related to national health and welfare...The authors take up each vitamin from standpoint of chemistry, physiology, pathology, therapeutics and methods of assay, which further increases the value of the book, since it contains the newest information on all of the vitamins. An entire chapter is devoted to each vitamin, a complete set of references is furnished, work dealing with the vitamin in animal tissues is summarized and clearly presented in table form."

Beautifying Farm Homes

American farm homes can be beautiful, says R. O. Monosmith, of the Mississippi Extension Service, in an article in Better Crops with Plant Food, November. In the minds of most thinking folks, he says, better crops mean "a better home, a more attractive, comfortable, convenient home, and a better way of life. The art of landscaping the home grounds can be made profitable to

the home owner by increasing the value of the real estate and by making the grounds more convenient, more useful, and more attractive. The recreational and educational advantages of land-scaping are many, and much may be said regarding the value of orderly, attractive surroundings as an environment for growing children...

"Gradual development of a simple arrangement, following a plan carefully prepared, is the most desirable method of landscaping the home. Rapid development or complex arrangements are expensive, difficult to maintain, and often unsatisfactory. Plantings in the landscape picture are never stationary, they are growing and changing from year to year. One should plan to revise, replant, replace, or thin plants in the original plan."

Canadian

Freight Aid for Feeds

Dominion Department of Agriculture, November 26:

Farmers in eastern Canada are benefiting from the freight assistance policy of the Government which makes western grains, millfeeds and feed screenings available to them with virtually no freight charges east of Fort William and Port Arthur. This assistance amounts to \$4.50 per ton within the Montreal freight rate zone, which includes most of Ontario and part of Quebec, and beyond this zone the balance of the through carlot freight charges are also paid. Canada is committed to supply Britain with great quantities of food products and Department of Agriculture officials consider this scheme will enable farmers profitably to maintain and increase production. The freight assistance carries through to July 1, 1942, so farmers can plan livestock and poultry breeding and feeding operations accordingly.

Freight assistance on western grains and millfeeds has been extended to apply to British Columbia, the Flour and Feeds Administrator has announced. Rail freight charges on western grains and millfeeds to be used exclusively for feed for livestock or poultry in British Columbia will be paid by the Dominion Government up to July 1, 1942, from Calgary, Edmonton, or other points in Alberta having the same freight rate. This means British Columbia will have similar assistance in western grains and millfeeds for livestock and poultry as applies to eastern Canada.

Miss. Farmers Offered Use of Machine Shops

AP report from Jackson (Miss.) in New Orleans Times-Picayune, November 26: Mississippi farmers have been offered the use of machine shops in 357 vocational schools in 78 counties as a contribution to agricultural

defense. Farmers are urged to keep their mechanical equipment in repair because of difficulty of obtaining replacements. A. P. Fatherree, State supervisor of agricultural education, offered use of the shops, saying they might be used 24 hours a day if necessary and suggesting that evening classes of farmers and farm boys be organized to repair machinery.

Argentine Pact Provides for Commission

Bulletin of Pan American Union, December, says one feature of the U.S.-Argentine trade agreement, not previously included in agreements negotiated under the Trade Agreements Act, is provision for consultation regarding matters affecting operation of the agreement through a commission consisting of representatives of each of the two Governments.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 46

Section 1

December 5, 1941

NUTRITION MAY AFFECT VISION, EYE DISEASES

New York Times, December 5: Efforts to conserve vision, with special attention to industrial eye accidents, particularly in the defense program, and additional legislation to prevent causes of blindness, were called for yesterday by speakers of the National Society for Prevention of Blindness in New York City. Dr. Frank G. Boudreau, director of the Milbank Memorial Fund, told the conference that nutrition may prove to be "one of the keys needed to unlock some mysteries concerning eye diseases and conditions which long have baffled us." Dietary studies, he said, have revealed that large numbers of persons fail to get in their diets the amounts of vitamins A and G necessary for good health. Workers with laboratory animals have reported development of cataracts among animals on a diet deficient in vitamin G. (riboflavin).

GRAND CHAMPION STEER SELLS FOR \$3.30 A POUND

AP report to New York Herald Tribune, December 5: The grand champion steer of the 42nd annual International Livestock Exposition was sold yesterday at auction for \$3.30 a pound, the same price paid for last year's champion. The steer, Loyal Alumnus 4th, an Aberdeen Angus exhibited by Purdue University, was purchased by the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, which also bought last year's winner.

BILL WOULD PAY 66 MILLION IN FARM INDEMNITIES

AP report in New York Herald Tribune, December 5: The House Agriculture Committee yesterday approved legislation to authorize appropriation of \$66,000,000 for producers of cotton, tobacco and wheat, whose crops were damaged by unfavorable weather and insects.

HOUSE REPORT ON DEFENSE MIGRATION

Otis E. Mulliken, of AAA, who reviews the first interim report of the House Committee Investigating National Defense Migration, in Land Policy Review, December, says: Part II, the only section bearing directly on agriculture, is concerned mainly with discussion of available data on the agricultural labor market and shortage. It consists of a critical examination of the AMS demand and supply reports and reports of labor shortage made by State subcommittees on farm labor of State agricultural planning committees.

New Sorghum
Harvesting
Method

Wallaces' Farmer, Nov. 29: Where sorghum grain is becoming increasingly popular, farmers will be interested in a new method of harvesting. After the sorghums are shocked, following cutting by a regular row or grain binder, an allcrop harvester is pulled up to the shock and bundles are topped with the up-turned sickle-bar. The heads, falling on the canvas, are carried through the harvester, where they are threshed. The headed bundles are cast aside and fed as fodder. Two men can do this work effectively. Once the grain is in the shock, threshing may be done any time during the winter.

Drilling
Limestone
for Legumes

Better Crops With Plant Food, November: Considerable interest has been aroused in recent years over the possibility of drilling small amounts of limestone with legume seed in order to obviate the necessity of making heavy broadcast applications of lime to obtain good stands of legumes when grown on acid soil. Results obtained in Missouri experiments are summarized in Missouri Station bulletin 429, Drilling Limestone for Legumes, by W. A. Albrecht.

The author feels that in the use of limestone so much attention has been given to the acid-correcting properties of this material that the calcium added and available to the plant as a nutrient tends to be overlooked. He feels this calcium is at least as important as the acid-correcting properties of the limestone so far as legumes are concerned.

Ventilation
for Chick
Brooders

Tests by the Department in cooperation with the University of Nebraska show that no provision need be made for forced ventilation under hovers of chick-brooding units, if these units are less than 3 feet wide. Under wider hovers, carbon-dioxide concentration may increase to a point where it is harmful to chicks unless some type of forced ventilation is provided.

Starter
Solution
for Crops

Tests by the New York Experiment Station in cooperation with BACE indicate that use of a nutrient starter solution as supplementary fertilizer treatment for transplanted crops, especially tomatoes, hastened recovery of the plants and maturity of the crop.

Mexican
Funds For
Agriculture

Bulletin of Pan American Union, November: President Camacho of Mexico, in his message to Congress in September, reported that the 1940 budget allowance for large-scale irrigation projects was increased by 20 million pesos and for small-scale projects by 1.5 million pesos over the previous year. Of the 8,350,000 pesos of credit advanced by the National Bank of Agricultural Credit, 6,176,000 pesos were for equipment, with preference given to funds for cotton, corn, and wheat. The National Bank of Ejidal Credit authorized credit transactions during the year totaling 55,460,662 pesos.

Limestone Curbs
Calf Losses on
Wheat Pasture

Oklahoma A & M College Agricultural News Service, December 1: Replacement of salt with a mineral mixture of one-half powdered limestone and one-half salt usually prevents losses of calves on good wheat pasture, Bruce R. Taylor, of the animal husbandry department at the college, reports. Feeding of one or more pounds of dry roughage per head daily also curbs loss, he said, and when both suggestions are followed, losses practically never occur. This so-called "wheat pasture trouble" was common in northwest Oklahoma and southwest Kansas in 1935. Some cases probably occur every year with rank wheat pasture. Calves usually die suddenly. The exact cause of the trouble is not known.

How British
Use U.S. Lend
Lease Food

United States News, December 5, commenting on lend-lease shipments of food to Britain, says: "There is growing interest in how this food is distributed in England...The British Government is selling the bulk of this food to British wholesalers. The price charged often is below the paper cost to the British Government. Wholesalers then sell lend-lease food to retailers, who distribute it through regular channels to customers... In this way Britain partially 'subsidizes' the cost of living. It subsidizes price of foodstuffs, lend-lease and other, to the tune of \$600,000,000 a year. This method of price control is very effective.

Two reasons behind the British decision to sell the food are: cost of setting up a separate system for giving away lend-lease food, and belief that, with rationing and price fixing in effect, the fairest way to divide American food among civilians is to lump it with the rest of the food supply."

1941 Chemical
Engineering
Award

New York Times, December 3: For research in recovery of metallic magnesium from sea water, the Dow Chemical Company last night received the 1941 Award for Chemical Engineering Achievement. Presentation was made at a dinner by Col. Alfred H. White, chairman of the award committee and head of the Department of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, University of Michigan. The award is given biennially by the publication, Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, to the company which has contributed most to the industry and profession in the two years.

More Than Third
of U.S. Farms
Electrified

Nearly 1,400,000 of the nation's farms have substituted electric lights for oil lamps in the past 6½ years, according to an REA report. This brings the total to more than 2,000,000 electrified farms out of a total of over 6,000,000 farms. Number of farms receiving central station electric service from private power companies, REA systems and all other sources as of June 30, 1941, is 2,126,150, against 743,954 on January 1, 1935, the year in which REA was established. Today, 34.9 percent of the Nation's farms are electrified, against only 10.9 percent in 1935. New Jersey ranks first among States in percentage of rural electrification. Of approximately 25,000 farms in the State, 24,000 or 92.0 percent were receiving central electric service on June 30, 1941.

Sell Skim Milk,
Feed Calf Meal
To Lower Costs

Dairy farmers can reduce feed costs and at the same time release large quantities of skim milk -- now important as defense food -- by substituting a good meal for skim milk in the calf's ration. Because current demand for dairy products as defense food (including skim milk) exceeds supply, prices have climbed to record highs. Many calf-meal grains, on the other hand, are available in surplus and relatively low in price.

Calf meals may be purchased ready-mixed, or may be mixed at home from farm grains and high-protein supplements. They should contain some protein from an animal source. On good calf meal and with good management, calves will generally be average in weight or a little above average at 6 months of age.

Iowa Seed
Treating
Centers

J. H. Standen, Extension Plant pathologist at Iowa State College, in Grain & Feed Journals, November 26: Seed treating and cleaning centers have been established in 60 Iowa communities in the last 5 years by elevators and seed houses to help local farmers clean and treat their seed more conveniently and economically than on the farm.

Many elevators cooperating with Extension Service are using an automatic gravity-fed seed treater with capacity of up to 400 bushels an hour. Forty of these machines are in use in the State. This treater was developed by USDA in 1935 and has been improved considerably since then. It uses an automatic scale that dumps the hopperful of seed and fungicidal dust into a long chute for mixing.

Predicts More
Demand for
Purebred Bulls

American Cattle Producer, December: Breeders of popular breeds of British origin need not be alarmed if there are limited areas in this country where cross-bred cattle, resulting from crossing *Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus* species, have advantages over straight-bred cattle. Even in these areas there is likely to be increasing demand for good purebred bulls of breeds of British origin. Crossbreeding in the Gulf Coast has demonstrated the value of having *Bos indicus* blood in the females, leaving a good market for purebred bulls of *Bos taurus* species.

We are going to see increased demand also for purebred beef bulls in such South American countries as Colombia and Venezuela and many islands of the Caribbean. There have already been many sizable shipments to these countries during the past three years. Though climate and environment in countries bordering the Caribbean are somewhat unfavorable to production of purebred beef cattle, native cattle are very hardy, and the Criollo cow makes an excellent foundation female to use with imported beef bulls from the United States.

Farm-Hour Talks,
Week of Dec. 8

Among radio talks scheduled for the National Farm and Home Hour, week of December 8 are the following: December 9, Home-Made Sweets for Christmas, Ruth Van Deman, BHE; December 11, The Job Ahead, the first of the series, American Agriculture Mobilizes; December 12, A Modern Age Comes to Latin America, Philip L. Green, FAR.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 47

Section 1

December 8, 1941

DEFENSE GARDEN PROGRAM

A National Defense Garden Conference in Washington, December 19 and 20, to launch a 1942 garden campaign, has been called by Secretary Wickard and Director of Defense Health and Welfare Services McNutt. The USDA Garden Committee and DEWS Nutrition Sub-Committee recommend (1) farm gardens; (2) home fruit gardens and (3) community and school gardens. They also recommend that school lunch programs be extended to more communities and be supported locally with vegetables grown in nearby gardens.

WILSON TO SPEAK AT NUTRITION CONFERENCE

New York Journal of Commerce, December 8: M. L. Wilson, assistant director of nutrition, Federal Security Agency; Clarence Francis, president, General Foods Corporation; and Mayor F. H. LaGuardia will speak at a nutritional conference to be held at the Health Department Headquarters Building in New York, December 10. The meeting is sponsored by a number of city departments and welfare groups.

IMPROVED RANGE PRACTICES URGED BY FS OFFICIAL

Increases in meat supplies from national forest ranges for Food for Freedom can best be obtained by improving range practices rather than by increasing the number of grazing head, said W. L. Dutton, chief of the FS division of range management, in speaking before the AFBF livestock conference in Chicago December 8. Pointing out that 10 million sheep and 2 million cattle owned by almost 50,000 operators graze seasonally or yearlong on national forest ranges, he said ranges are only now recovering from the disastrous effects of overstocking during the first World War.

DEFENSE NEEDS IN FOODSTUFFS

Roy F. Hendrickson, SMA Administrator, speaking December 8 at the fruit and vegetable commodity conference in connection with the annual AFBF meeting in Chicago, said: "We are looking ahead to 1942 when we will need far greater supplies of foodstuffs than are now available. Production goals have been set, and the Nation is looking to its farmers to fill this big order. And there is no question about agriculture's determination to do the job. "But no matter how patriotic farmers may be, no one should expect them to increase their production without the assurance of market outlets that will give them a fair return on the work and money it takes to bring about the expansion. Accordingly, the Federal Government has pledged to support the prices of those products for which the need is greatest. With this support, farmers can go ahead with full confidence and know that increasing production will not spell their ruin as it frequently has in the past.

"Canned vegetables are among the vital foods of which more must be produced to meet all our requirements for use at home and for lend-lease shipment. We are now taking advantage of the time that we have, and are working out plans to bring about the sharp increases in the production and canning of those vegetables we need in greater amounts."

Honey is
Used in
Many Ways

Gleanings in Bee Culture, December, contains a talk by Harold J. Clay, AMS, at the fall meeting of the Southern States Beekeepers Federation. Among lesser known honey products, which Mr. Clay describes, are bread and other baked goods with honey, honey-cured hams, and beverages containing honey. Honey was first used to preserve and improve meats thousands of years ago, he says, and during the past few years packing firms in Central and Plains States have bought honey in large lots for curing hams. Use of honey in fermented drinks is not new either. In Europe hydromel (honey and water) is one of the oldest drinks known, and honey brandy and honey champagne are still considered delicacies by connoisseurs. In recent years many carloads of honey have gone to brewers.

Manufacturers are now working on improvement of honey butter or honey cream with consistency of soft butter, (such products tend to grow rancid). Some brands of chewing tobacco contain small quantities of honey with a pronounced flavor. On the Pacific Coast beekeepers are showing interest in breakfast products which combine honey with puffed rice, puffed wheat, or corn flakes. Honey-processed cereals are also being manufactured in a small way in the Central States.

Sees Food as
Basis of World
Economic Order

Writing on "Food, the Basis of International Policies," Charles L. Steward, Illinois College of Agriculture, says in Land Policy Review, December: "From the standpoint of farmers in the United States no less than from the standpoint of all producers and consumers, it seems that economic order among nations, such as economists have been outlining since Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations was published in 1776, should be built as opportunity permits. It should not be a byproduct of a world order established to realize military peace but a twin objective in an organized world.

"To reinvigorate economic life after the present war will require that the world constitutional order be competent on its economic side as well as on its military side. Break-down in the dreams of Pan-American, plus leadership to a realist world federation on the part of the United States and her Pan-American and British associates, can pave the way not only to law and order in the skies, but also to economic developments that can support nutrition, agriculture, and world trade. These projected economic developments can create a new trend in the individual well-being of those who do their part with diligence and intelligence."

Tea Rose Named
Pan America

Pan American, November: A hybrid tea rose now bears the name Rose Pan America. Making its debut at a Festival of Roses in New York State, the new flower is unusually large and notable for its coloring. The buds first appear reddish-orange, lightening to deep orange as the petals open. As the flower expands, the color fades into an orange and tawny yellow combination. The plant blooms continuously throughout the season, with a burst of even deeper colored flowers in the fall.

Special Army
Rations in Cans,
for Emergency

Mary I Barber, food consultant to the Secretary of War, writes in December Journal of Home Economics on Army feeding: Two types of special rations, called C and D, have been adopted by the Quartermaster Corps, she says. Ration C is composed of 6 cans of food, 3 of which contain the main part of a meal -- meat and beans, meat and vegetable stew, meat and vegetable hash, respectively. The other 3 contain biscuits, soluble coffee, sugar and candy. The six cans make up 3 meals for one day for one man. This ration is used when field kitchens are not available. Ration D is a chocolate bar for emergency use. It yields 600 calories, weighs 4 ounces, and is made from chocolate, sugar, skim-milk powder, cocoa butter, oat flour (to prevent melting in hot climates), artificial vanilla, and thiamin (vitamin B-1).

Mt. Baker Forest
Opens Ski Patrol
Headquarters

Bellingham (Wash.) report in Mississippi Valley Lumberman, November 28: R. L. Fromme, assistant supervisor of the Mount Baker National Forest, says the Forest Service has completed renovation of Heather Inn, acquired for ski patrol headquarters, first aid station and general public station, preparatory to opening of the ski season. Thousands of skiers will use the forest's Heather Meadows this winter, it is estimated.

Tennessee Offers
Freezer Locker
Short Course

A Knoxville report in American Egg and Poultry Review, November, says: The University of Tennessee will offer a Freezer-Locker Short Course covering the basic principles of frozen food processing and storage, January 12 through January 15. While the curriculum is designed primarily for locker operators, owners, patrons and Extension Service personnel, it is open to anyone interested in the processing, packing and distribution of quick-frozen foods.

Guides for
Post-War
Planning

The National Planning Association has issued "Guides for Post-War Planning," No. 8 of a series of planning pamphlets on problems of public affairs. The purpose of this one is "to call attention to some of the thinking now being done about post-war economic policy." Ideas presented in the pamphlet are contributions of individuals and groups and not necessarily of the association. A series dealing in more detail with some of the problems briefly presented in this pamphlet will be issued later.

Canada Tests
Charcoal Fuel
for Engines

Pulp and Paper Magazine of Canada, November: With present shortage in gasoline, renewed interest is being shown in research that has been carried out for the past few years at the University of British Columbia by the Forest Products Laboratories on development of charcoal fuel for automobiles and trucks. R. M. Brown, superintendent of the laboratories, believes charcoal fuel may be utilized for trucks and stationary engines. Laboratory officials are already operating a charcoal burning truck in Vancouver. Results have shown that British Columbia woods can be turned into charcoal that operates autos and truck very efficiently.

Link Tooth Decay,
Pyorrhea to
Vitamin-B Lack

Tooth decay may be due to a deficiency of some of the B vitamins it appears from experiments by Dr. Hermann Becks, professor of dental medicine at the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, University of California, and Dr. Agnes Fay Morgan, professor of home economics at the University.

Dogs on a diet lacking one of the B vitamins developed tooth decay, normally absent in dogs, Dr. Becks found. The B vitamin lacking was the filtrate factor. Its function is still unexplained. When the dogs' diet was deficient in nicotinic acid, the animals developed pyorrhea and severe bleeding of gums. A third, or control group, on a balanced diet, developed no decay or pyorrhea. (Science News Letter, Nov. 29)

Rotary Hand
Pump Fills
Tractor Tanks

Implement & Tractor, November 22: A new rotary hand pump designed to facilitate fueling tractors and other farm implements is announced by a company in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The new unit fits any gasoline drum and is operated by a hand crank. It draws the fuel through a suction pipe locked into the drum and delivers it to the tractor or implement tank through an eight-foot hose. The pump weighs only 20 pounds; is easily moved from shed to fields and back again.

Conservation
of Waste
Paper Urged

Modern Packaging, December, comments on paper shortage: Difficulty of Americans to cultivate thrifty conservation habits is evidenced by exceedingly slow collection of waste paper. Placards and suggestions appear everywhere, but squandering of valuable waste paper goes on. House to house collections, it is reported, are not bringing results. Paper men, box manufacturers and other converters, feeling raw material shortage acutely, are constantly advocating conservation and waste collection.

Interstate Commerce Commission modifications now permit lighter weight containers for use in railway shipments, with anticipated paper-board savings of 10 percent. Office of Quartermaster General has instructed Army camps, posts and stations to salvage paper materials for re-use or sale. OPM has suggested elimination of printing on burlap bags used for packaging so as to permit possible re-use.

Increased Lumber
Consumption in
1941 Forecast

Gulf Coast Lumberman, December 1: Lumber consumption for 1941 will approximate 32,200,000,000 board feet, according to the quarterly report of the Lumber Survey Committee to the Department of Commerce, released recently. This compares with 29,000,000,000 feet in 1940, an increase of 11 percent; and 26,400,000,000 in 1939.

Bran Bug
a Pest in
Northwest

Grain & Feed Journals, November 26: Bran bugs are becoming a pest in the Pacific Northwest. In Umatilla County, Oregon, the AAA representative reports old and new elevators have been infested, and the pest is prevalent in varying degree over the whole county. He ascribes the increased infestation to damp wheat and warm weather. Shippers can save most of the cost of terminal market fumigation by using insecticides on grain before shipment.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 48

Section 1

December 9, 1941

WICKARD REVIEWS 1942 FOOD FOR FREEDOM GOALS

Moving swiftly to adjust the Food-For-Freedom program to war developments, Secretary Wickard yesterday called on Department bureau and agency heads to reconsider 1942 production goals with a view to increasing them where necessary.

"The treacherous action by Japan," Secretary Wickard said, "has served to completely unite the American People in their thinking and in their action... We enter this struggle equipped with greater reserves of food, feed, and fiber than at any other period of our history. The United States and our allies can count on Agriculture's supreme effort in the face of difficulties, to keep on turning out what our defense requires, at the time it is required, in the quantity required."

Changes necessary as a result of developments in the Pacific will be decided by the Department in consultation with farmer representatives throughout the nation.

FARM BELT TO PRODUCE AMPLE FOOD SUPPLIES

Chicago report in New York Herald Tribune, December 9: People of the farm belt yesterday accepted with determination the nation's declaration of war against Japan and turned to their task of producing bread and meat as well as munitions. The 23rd annual meeting of the AFBF opened its 4-day session with the prospect that many Federal officials listed as speakers would have to cancel their engagements. Secretary Wickard, unable to leave Washington, made his scheduled address to the AFBF over the National Farm and Home Hour Tuesday.

The Tribune also reports: William Fellowes Morgan, Jr., New York Commissioner of Markets, issued a statement yesterday assuring housewives of New York City that wholesale and retail stores and warehouses have ample stocks of food on hand for normal use. He cautioned them not to purchase unusual amounts because of "false rumors that may be spread by agitators or enemy agents." A city-wide campaign for better nutrition as an aid to civilian defense, which opens today, will continue for six months.

FORECAST COTTON CROP OF NEARLY 11 MILLION BALES

Cotton crop of 10,976,000 bales is forecast by the Crop Reporting Board, as of December 1. This is a reduction of 44,000 bales from the forecast November 1 and compares with 12,566,000 bales ginned in 1940, 11,817,000 in 1939, and 13,246,000, the 10-year (1930-39) average. Indicated yield per acre of 235.4 pounds compares with 252.5 pounds in 1940, 237.9 in 1939, and 205.4, the 10-year (1930-39) average.

Bureau of Census report shows 9,595,706 running bales (counting round as half bales) ginned from the crop of 1941 prior to December 1, compared with 10,866,474 for 1940 and 11,110,486 for 1939.

Lend-Lease
Food Shipments
For October

Delivery of agricultural commodities to the British, for shipment under lend-lease, reached 550,000,000 pounds during October. Shipments were valued at about \$60,000,000. SMA reports that food and other agricultural commodities delivered to the British from the beginning of operations in April up to November 1 amounted to more than 2,200,000,000 pounds. Cost of commodities delivered at shipping points was just under \$250,000,000.

Would Call
New Vitamin
"Pantothen"

(Science News Letter, November 29:) Pantothenic acid, one of the new vitamins which has become so important "it is destined to be almost a household article," has been rechristened by its discoverer, Prof. Roger J. Williams, of the University of Texas. In a report to Science November 14, Prof. Williams suggests calling the vitamin by the short name of pantothen.

Priorities for
Container
Industries

Washington report in Southern Lumberman, December 1: In a move to facilitate operations of the cooperage and wooden container industries and to assist production of paperboard containers, the Priorities Division has issued Preference Rating Order P-79, effective November 20, extending to manufacturers in these fields priority assistance in obtaining necessary hardware, including wire and nails, saws, knives, and other tools.

Flexible
Corrugated
Paperboard

Modern Packaging, December: To relieve shortage of shipping containers, one paper products company is offering a new packing material which they call a "packing paradox," because it is a flexible corrugated product that folds like uncorrugated paper. This material, they say, can replace other container materials that weigh five times as much and require more space. In the automotive industry, for example, the material has been used to replace crates for packing hoods, grills and fenders.

Sees Need for
All 1942 Tomato
and Pea Packs

Atlantic City report in New York Journal of Commerce, December 5: Banks Collings, of the USDA assured the thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Tri-State Packers Associations there will be need for every case of canned tomatoes and peas packed in 1942. If conditions abroad should suddenly change, he said, the Government would still be in the picture for the problem of removing all the pack in excess of commercial requirements for possible post-war uses or for longer periods of time required to distribute in our own country food for school lunch and other relief purposes. The Government is making every effort to work out a program for estimated pack requirements for next year, he said.

Robert C. Paulus, president of the National Cannery Association, said it appeared at present that the canning industry would have a "fairly definite" pack program for the coming year on which to base its contracts with growers, its purchases of supplies, plant maintenance, and canning operations.

Thermoplastic
Tubing May
Replace Copper

Modern Packaging, December: A chemical company has announced a flexible thermoplastic material as an alternative for copper and other metal tubings. The company says this tubing may be used in many applications previously calling for copper, except where high temperatures and very high pressure are encountered. The tubing is said to be suitable for replacing nickel, stainless steel, copper, and ceramics.

Rye Mix
Reduces
Grain Value

Grain & Feed Journals, November 26: Rye mixture is causing heavy loss to wheat growers, grain dealers and millers in many areas. At Wichita, Hutchinson and Wellington during July and August, 530 cars were graded down on inspection on account of rye mix. With 2 percent of rye mix and each car containing an average of 1,500 bushels, the average loss per car is \$30 and total reduction in value \$15,900.

"War Comes to
the Kitchen"

George E. Farrell, of BAE in article, War Comes to the Kitchen, in Land Policy Review, December: Hemp from which clothes lines are made must do its bit to win the war. We have only about 8,000 acres in hemp in Kentucky and Wisconsin. Hemp is needed to make engine-packing rope and fire hose, and there will be little left for twine and webbing for upholstery...

We produce no abaca in the United States. It comes from the Philippine Islands, and that means a long haul over the Pacific Ocean, where every ship is needed to transport rubber, tin, and tungsten. No nation can fight a war without rope, and abaca makes the best...

Street cleaners, firemen, and farmers, use brooms with red fibers that remain stiff, wet or dry. The fiber is palmyra from India. We still grow some broomcorn in Illinois and Kansas, but the fiber is flexible and finds its greatest use in house brooms that are kept dry...

Kapok, known primarily as filling for pillows, grows on a tree in the East Indies and is shipped into this country in normal times at the rate of about 8,000 tons annually. Soldiers need kapok for sleeping bags, life preservers, flying suits--and ships are scarce...

Our supply of animal hair must take its place in the first line of defense and we civilians must shift to other domestic materials. Raffia, human hair, rabbit hair, and a thousand other minor items of import that are not necessary or essential to our existence will be missing in the market of 1942.

Argentine
Cheese
for U. S.

Pan American, November: Argentina not only hopes to retain its newly developed market for cheese in the United States, but has a program for developing a larger demand, according to Dr. Enrique L. Yalour, director of the dairy division of the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture. Dr. Yalour, on a visit to New York, said sales of Argentine cheese had increased more than six times since European cheeses have been unavailable in world markets.

1942 Gum Naval
Stores Loans

CCC will make available loans for 1942 gum naval stores, through the American Turpentine Farmers Association Cooperative, of Valdosta, Georgia, to producers who comply with the 1942 AAA Naval Stores Conservation Program administered by FS. Loan value on turpentine will be 55 cents per bulk gallon. Loan rates on rosin will average \$3.05 per 100 pounds net. Loan rates for both turpentine and rosin are 85 percent of parity.

Vegetable
Situation

Continued relatively high level of consumer demand plus some seasonal decrease in supplies resulted in advancing prices of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and truck crops during November, says BAE. General prospect is for continued improved situation during the remainder of the year.

Canadian
Price Control
Comment

Country Guide (Winnipeg, December) comments on new Canadian price control. As far as agriculture is concerned, there is temptation to look back to prosperity of the last war period. There was \$2.50 wheat, 20 cent hogs, 14 cent steers, and 60 cent butter. But there were no surpluses to start with. Markets of Italy and France as well as of Great Britain were clamoring for food. There were no effective price controls.

The situation today is very different. When war began, there was a surplus of wheat. Italy is on the other side and France is within the blockade. There remains but one important market, the British, and on it prices are under strict control. Prices for what we send over are set by agreement with the British Ministry of Food. This applies to wheat, bacon, cheese, eggs and apples. Very little butter is shipped, and it was necessary to put a floor under butter prices last spring.

Official Feedstuff
Definitions

Flour & Feed, December: Tentative definitions adopted at the 1940 convention of the Association of American Feed Control Officials were made official at the 1941 convention, and will be published in the 1941-42 Year Book. Flour & Feed gives the new official feed definitions for vitamin A and D feeding oil, fortified codliver oil, D activated animal sterol, beet molasses, corn sugar molasses, distillers' molasses solubles, sweet potato pulp, peanut oil cake, protein peanut oil meal, and brewers' dried grains.

Profits from
Good Pasture

Grain & Feed Review, December: Pasture land promises to be one of the most profitable sources of farm income in the next year or two in view of steadily increasing defense demand for meat and dairy products. A recent statement of the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee says: "To obtain most profitable results from pasture, a program of good soil management, including application of fertilizer, is essential. Such a program not only will produce grasses richer in needed vitamins and minerals, but will promote more rapid and luxuriant growth. It will likewise build up the soil and add to the farm's long-range value."

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 49

Section 1

December 10, 1941

WICKARD SPEAKS ON "THE TASK AHEAD" FOR AGRICULTURE

Secretary Wickard, speaking yesterday (Dec. 9) on "The Task Ahead," over the National Farm and Home Hour, said: "Agriculture's part in the war-time economy of America becomes that of keeping farm production rolling; of maintaining the great superiority this Nation has in the number one material of modern warfare -- food. We started a year ago to step up production in many commodities. The year 1941 set new records. Last summer we established 1942 production goals for agriculture, asking for still greater output. We set up State and county USDA Defense Boards to help farmers reach these goals. The first job for farmers and workers in the agricultural agencies is to get the county reports, as nearly complete as possible, sent to State headquarters. It is essential that we have the State reports here in Washington as soon as possible.

"All of us must do our best to reach these goals. Labor will be scarce in some sections, farm machinery will be scarce, so will fertilizers, spray materials and other essentials. It would be an offense against national safety to waste any of these scarce things on producing farm products that are not needed. This is a time to work together as if the United States were one big farm, to produce just what we need...

"There are two other immediately pressing tasks which farm people must complete. One is repair of farm machinery... Every farmer should be urged to buy or order repair parts now if he has not already done so. The other immediate job is to get scrap metal off the farms and into the junk yards. More scrap metal is urgently needed for steel production."

AFBF HEAD SAYS FARM PRICES ARE FAIR

Chicago report to New York Times, December 10. Edward A. O'Neal, AFBF president, yesterday said at the annual convention that agriculture has been stabilized and farm prices generally are satisfactory. He said stabilizing legislation and wartime demands had enabled farmers to reach their goal of parity. Farmers will meet their responsibilities fully, he said, knowing that food is a weapon of war and an instrument of peace.

PARITY LOAN, CONSERVATION EXTENSION

Washington Post, December 10: The House yesterday approved legislation to continue the Department of Agriculture soil conservation program five years from December 31 and to extend the present 85 percent parity loan program for the next three years. The members defeated, 71 to 14, an attempt by Representative Johns (Wis.) to limit the AAA extension to two years. The bill goes back to the Senate for consideration of House amendments.

Dried Molasses
for Stock Feed

W. H. Peters, University of Minnesota, in *Flour & Feed*, December: The practice of drying molasses, or reducing moisture content so it becomes a solid rather than a liquid, for feeding to livestock, has been introduced. There is little experimental data available on feeding of dried molasses, but it should feed just as well as in liquid form. Expense is incurred in drying, but saved in packaging and freight.

D.C. School Milk
Program Approved

Nearly 28,000 Washington, D. C., boys and girls attending 59 schools and 7 settlement houses in low-income areas will get free milk daily under a USDA program. Pupils of 45 public and 14 parochial schools, and 7 settlement houses will receive the milk as soon as bids for supplying it are accepted by SMA. The program will also be available to eligible schools to be selected soon in Maryland suburbs of the Washington milk marketing area.

BDI Head Reports
Progress for
Fiscal Year 1941

Because the dairy farmer has to renew about 20 percent of his milking herd every year, he must obtain new milk cows that are as good if not better than the ones he discards, O. E. Reed, BDI Chief, says in his annual report.

"The 26 million cows milked annually throughout the country are like so many machines in the Nation's milk-producing factory," Mr. Reed explained. "Each one wears out in time, usually in about 5 years; many turn out to be low producers and are discarded in less time than that. Still others are culled from the herd when they fail to get with calf promptly, or develop reproductive troubles that interfere with their usefulness." Mr. Reed says the most promising solution is for the dairy farmer to adopt a breeding program founded on scientific principles, to provide replacement animals that are better than the ones he discards. The Bureau took an active part in guiding dairy farmers and dairy-plant operators in their efforts to meet the suddenly increased demand for dairy products, Mr. Reed reported.

Corn Feeding
Experiments

E. F. Ferrin, (Minnesota College of Agriculture) and D. W. Johnson, in *Grain & Feed Review*, December, report experiments on the comparative feeding value of hybrid and open-pollinated corn. Chemical analyses of the two types of corn, they say, do not show any great differences in nutrients, but hybrid varieties average a little lower in protein than open-pollinated corn, though some hybrids are fairly high in protein.

Tests in feeding two hybrid varieties, Minnhybrid 301 and Wisconsin hybrid 645, and one open-pollinated strain, Golden Jewell, both shelled and ground, did not show any considerable differences in average daily gains of pigs among the six lots, except in the lot receiving Minnhybrid shelled corn, where the daily gain and the corn consumed ran a little lower than in the other five lots. Results as a whole indicate that differences in feeding values of strains of corn are due less to differences between hybrid and open-pollinated varieties than to variations within the two types of corn.

Soil-Cement
Building
Blocks

W. C. McNown, University of Kansas, in Engineering News-Record, December 4: "The walls of a new laboratory now under construction at the University of Kansas will be built of soil-cement building blocks. Twenty thousand of the necessary 30,000 blocks have been made and the walls will be started in early spring. The blocks are made of a local sandy loam soil combined with 10 percent by weight of cement for those to be used in partitions and 12 percent for those to go into outside walls. The material cost of a block, exclusive of mortar, for 10-inch hollow wall, is about 7 cents a square foot of wall area. The labor cost, figured at the probable wage, would be 25 cents per square foot of wall.

The material has passed all reasonable laboratory tests, but such tests lack the important element of time required to prove quality of a building material subjected to exposed conditions. However, it seems probable that stabilized earth prepared as a material for making walls of buildings may serve low-cost building needs in more humid regions as adobe has served so long in arid regions.

Gallup Poll
On Nutrition

Washington Post, December 5: First of three surveys by Gallup Poll on public health questions: Results reveal three disturbing facts: 1) Throughout Nation as a whole, 4 out of every 10 families--or total of 12 million families--say health suffers because of insufficient money for proper food; 2) situation shows no improvement over a year ago, despite increase in national income; 3) situation in lower income levels--families earning less than \$25 to \$30 a week--is particularly acute. Following are foods which families (who say health suffers from lack of money) would buy if possible: Meat, 45 percent; vegetables, 33 percent; dairy products, 33 percent; fruits, 30 percent; bread, cereals, 5 percent; sugar-content foods, 2 percent; miscellaneous, 22 percent.

Production
Requirements
Plan of OPM

Business Week, November 29: A simplified priorities system, known as the Production Requirements Plan, has been set up by OPM to aid manufacturers engaged in defense and essential nondefense production. Its novel features provide: (1) That an eligible manufacturer's requirements for critical materials shall be covered for three months at a time. (2) that the manufacturer can obtain a priority rating for materials which is geared to his needs and the importance of his products. The situation with respect to the available supply of a particular material may interfere at times, but the intention is to grant the manufacturer the same rates on specific amounts of all materials needed for a given product that the product itself carries.

Permit Propylene
Glycol in Foods

Glass Packer, December: Use of propylene glycol in flavoring and other foodstuffs, as a substitute for alcohol, glycerine, etc., has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Acting Commissioner L. D. Elliott, ruled: "Careful investigation of available results does not show that in amounts normally used in food products, propylene glycol is a harmful ingredient."

Vitamins
for Plants

Florists Exchange, December 6: The New York Botanical Garden Journal for November, in an article by Dr. W. J. Robbins, says the fact that all green plants appear to make their own Vitamin B-1 perhaps explains why such applications in horticultural practice do not accomplish miracles. Synthesized B-1 costs around \$300 per pound, but while ordinary plants do not require it, such low type plants as yeasts and molds must have it, yet their needs are so slight that a millionth of a cent's worth will cause a measurable growth of bread mold. There are many forms of vitamins that may or may not be concerned in growth of plants. To show their effects on mold, eight test tubes containing agar were impregnated with mold. The mold would not grow until vitamins B-1, B-6 and H were added to the agar medium. Vitamin H, or biotin, it would appear, is important to both plants and man.

Housewives'
Knowledge of
Beef Grades

Eastern Breeder, December: Most women buying beef know little about either the grades or brands of beef, the Illinois College of Agriculture reports. Only about one-fifth of 351 meat buyers interviewed in Decatur, Illinois, could name any government grades, and few could name any packer brands, even though most of them purchased branded beef. Most of them did not know whether they bought graded beef, and more than half did not know what class of beef they bought, whether steer, heifer, or cow. This and other surveys conducted by the university show that confusion usually results from the large number of packer brands used.

Storage as
Outlet for
Potatoes

Last year the equivalent of more than 12,000 600-bushel cars or about 7,200,000 bushels, of Maine potatoes were made into 25,000 tons of starch. Starch made from the Irish potato is particularly suitable in the manufacture of textiles, adhesive, and paper. Competition with domestic grain and imported starches usually does not permit successful potato starch operations except in bumper years when huge crops force the "on track" prices down to a level that permits the resumption of grinding. It is reported that the 25 odd starch factories in Maine operated with a profit last year. This year the price for potatoes for starch in Aroostook County in October was 90 cents a barrel. (American Agriculturist, December 6:)

Mass Production
in Low-Cost
Housing Field

Engineering News-Record, December 4: Many ideas developed on mass production industrial methods are finding effective application in low-cost housing. In construction of the 700-family Rahway River Park, N.J., project (described in this issue) all the lumber was pre-cut, notched and otherwise made ready for installation; then assembly of each house was scheduled as a series of operations, each by a group of workmen specially skilled in their particular task. At the 600-house project near Baltimore for workers in the Glenn L. Martin airplane plant, the system of construction embodies these features, plus the use of factory-prefabricated wall material and plywood girders, and incorporates a scientific division of labor operations based on time and motion studies.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 50

Section 1

December 11, 1941

FOOD SUPPLIES AMPLE, SAYS OPM OFFICIAL

New York Herald Tribune, December 11: There are ample food supplies in this country which insure against shortages and obviate need for additional price rises, Gerrit Vender Hooning, of OPM food procurement division declared last night at a special defense rally of food retailers in New York.

CITRUS, EGG AND MILK PRODUCTION

Crop Reporting Board announced yesterday (Dec. 10): Crops and livestock were favored by November weather conditions, say reports from range areas of West, citrus-fruit and winter-vegetable producing sections of South, and producers of dairy products and eggs in all parts of country.

Condition of western ranges December 1 was highest for the date since 1927. Range feed is plentiful in practically all areas, southwestern wheat pastures excellent, and hay and forage supplies large, but quality and feeding value of range feed, hay and forage are relatively low in most range states because of unusually heavy summer and fall rains.

The first estimates on citrus fruits (including some oranges now on trees, but to be picked next summer or fall) are 141 million boxes, nearly equal to record of 144 million harvested during 1940-41 season, and equal to more than one box for each family in U.S.

Due to more cows, heavy feeding, increased fall freshening, and mild weather, milk production in nearly all parts of country recently has been exceptionally heavy for this season. December 1 reports on production per cow averaged 5 percent above last year and 10 percent above average during previous 10 years.

Egg production is also heavy. December 1 reports on production per 100 hens were highest for date on record; they averaged 10 percent higher than last year and third higher than average during previous 10 years.

COTTON INSULATION ALLOTMENTS

Department today (Dec. 10) announced allotments to seven manufacturers for making 11,000,000 pounds of cotton insulation material from American cotton, card strips, and comber waste. These are first allotments under 1941-42 SMA program announced November 1, which called for manufacture of up to 12,000,000 pounds of cotton insulation to encourage use of cotton for this purpose. Program is similar to those in 1939-40 and 1940-41. In 1941-42, Federal payments at 9 cents per pound will be made through SMA.

FARM-HOME TALKS, WEEK OF DEC. 15

Among radio talks scheduled for the National Farm and Home Hour, week of December 15, are the following: December 16 -- American Agriculture Mobilizes, Keeping Farm Machines in the Front Lines; December 17 -- Secretary Wickard, speaking from Memphis, Tenn.

Townsend on
Farm Labor
Program

M. Clifford Townsend, OADR Director, speaking today (DEC. 10) to the National Association of Agricultural Commissioners, Secretaries and Directors of Agriculture, at Columbia, S.C., said: The USDA farm labor program in general provides for: (1) Encouraging the Federal Security Agency to strengthen and broaden the Farm Placement Service; (2) encouraging farmers to plan for future needs; (3) encouraging Selective Service to clarify agricultural deferments; (4) encouraging WPA, NYA, and CCC to use their training facilities for developing necessary farm skills; (5) mobile camp program, so that migratory workers may be used to best advantage; (6) encouraging part-time use of available labor, such as high school students and persons otherwise employed, in peak farm-labor periods.

Food Production
on Low-Income
Southern Farms

The Department has appointed C.M. Evans as special assistant to the FSA Administrator to promote Food for Freedom production among low-income farmers throughout the South. Mr. Evans has been Regional Director of the FSA for Region VIII, comprising Oklahoma and most of Texas, with headquarters in Dallas. He will continue to have headquarters in Dallas, but his work will cover Regions IV, V, VI, VIII, and XII including the 14 Southern States from Virginia to Texas, and parts of Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico, C. B. Baldwin, FSA Administrator, said.

As part of the Department drive to increase food production to meet defense needs, FSA recently decided to intensify efforts among low-income families in the Southern States, where food deficiencies are greatest and production shifts are most needed.

Predict Record
Demand for
Fertilizer

Business Week, November 29: Fertilizer demand will almost certainly exceed available supply during the next six months. This phenomenal situation occasioned most of the conferences at last week's Atlanta convention of National Fertilizer Association. Nearly all of the 300 leaders of the industry agree that every available production resource must be utilized, and will be to the extent permitted by prevailing material supply and transport conditions.

Fertilizer wants of the farmers during the next crop year will probably exceed by 5 percent the all-time record of plant food purchased during 1941 crop season. This means that nearly 9,000,000 tons of fertilizer will be put on the land if raw material and transport permit delivery.

Lend-Lease
Supplies for
Britain

Food Manufacture (London, October 1): The Ministry of Foods pointed out recently that although supplies of food from the United States under lend-lease will constitute only 5 or 6 percent of the United Kingdom's total consumption of food, their value is considerably greater than appears from these figures. They include concentrated proteins such as cheese, canned milk, dried milk, eggs, canned fish and meat. In the case of canned milk, supplies from the United States represent a considerable proportion of our total supply. Supplies under the lend-lease act are restoring balance in British diet, making it more varied, and improving both well-being and morale.

May Fortify
Bread With
Calcium Salt

Food Manufacture, (London, October 1): It is known that the intake of calcium salts in the British diet, especially among poorer classes, is often below the minimum accepted by nutrition experts as necessary for satisfactory growth of bones and teeth in growing children and for maintenance of bones in adults. Addition of calcium salts to bread was recommended recently by the Medical Research Council.

British Use
Straw Pulp
as Fodder

Country Life (London) October 17: Feeding trials of straw converted into fodder have been so successful that arrangements are being made to provide plants for treatment of chaff, cavings and chopped straw throughout Britain. The straw pulp process consists in treating chaff, cavings or chopped straw with a weak solution of caustic soda, draining it, washing it thoroughly and draining it again. One ton of straw makes $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons of pulp, having a feed value equivalent to 1 ton of good hay, or $4\frac{1}{4}$ tons of roots, or 1050 lbs crushed oats or sugar-beet pulp. The material should be introduced gradually into the ration. Cattle will eat well-made pulp freely. In view of its purely carbohydrate nature, straw pulp must be used only to replace starchy feeds like maize, oats, barley, rice meal or roots.

Essential Oils
Scarcer in
Great Britain

Food Manufacture (London) October 1: Supplies of nearly all essential oils used by British food and confectionery manufacturers are becoming scarcer, with market prices increasing almost daily. A recent market report says stocks of Chinese and Japanese peppermint oils are very scarce, but supplies of American oils have been coming through. California is the only source from which substantial quantities of lemon oil are being shipped, but stocks are too small to meet demand. Orange oil from Africa is practically unobtainable today, as is tangerine oil, though there is a tangerine-oil substitute offered in small quantities.

Fiber Substitute
for Baling Wire

Food Manufacture (London, October 1): A fiber substitute for baling wire (called balax) is being used by many industrial firms for baling waste paper. Use of the fiber effects a saving of over 20 percent in baling costs. The fiber material was developed by a manufacturer of baling wire, to conserve supplies of steel.

"The Valley,"
Ala. Textile
Community

Floyd Tillery, author of "Decentralization in the Far South," in Free America, December: Along the banks of the Chattahoochee River in Alabama lie five cotton mill towns in a row, known in southern textile circles as "The Valley." The number of employees in the mills is close to 10,000. A single textile corporation operates the five manufacturing plants. In the surrounding country are scores of little farms acquired in recent years by the mill operatives. All those living on farms own automobiles. In most instances the farm homes are serviced by REA. The \$15 to \$25 a week workers are finding security and independence in having a little land, house, vegetable garden, and tool shop of their own.

Argentine
Market for
U.S. Goods

Foreign Policy Reports, December 1 (U.S. Trade Ties With Argentina): Argentina is interested in developing a permanent market for its exports in the United States. In this respect, the trade agreement offers hope by granting concessions on a considerable number of products like cheese, casein, grapes, wine asparagus, canned meats, larger sales of which may be developed in the long run. This modest beginning will have to be seconded by more diligent and efficient methods of marketing by Argentine producers and exporters.

The newly formed Trade Promotion Corporation is helping exporters and manufacturers standardize and improve the quality of their products for sale in the United States. Hitherto, high import duties and fear of change in tariff rates have discouraged promotion of Argentine products in this market. By insuring stable and favorable tariff treatment for a minimum of three years, the agreement gives Argentina real incentive to develop its export trade with the United States.

Chemical
Revolution
in Farming

Carey McWilliams, Chief, California Division of Immigration and Housing, in "Farms Into Factories: Our Agricultural Revolution," in Anticoh Review, Winter: "The industrial revolution in agriculture has already begun to be succeeded by the chemical revolution. Agriculture, chemistry, and industry propose to convert the farms of America into 'great chemical manufacturing plants'.... The farm chemurgic movement promises to revolutionize still further our concept of farming...

Since the formation of the National Farm Chemurgic Council, \$150,000,000 has been invested in chemurgic enterprises in this country... Congress provided four regional research laboratories to develop new uses for agricultural products. Michigan State College recently received \$500,000 from the Rackham Foundation for chemurgic research. It is estimated that 50 million acres can be planted to so-called 'industrial crops' in the next 10 years. While such estimates should be discounted, it is nevertheless apparent that possibilities for the use of agricultural products as chemical compounds are almost unlimited."

Wallace and
the General
Welfare

Samuel E. Wood, University of California, author of "Henry A. Wallace and the General Welfare," in November Journal of Politics: "Henry A. Wallace has made his greatest theoretical and administrative contribution in the field of planning. Not only has he continued to be one of the strongest and most vocal advocates of State planning, but he has devised machinery to carry these plans into effect and has invented symbols and devices that make his plans work.

"His realization of the interdependence of our economic society may soon force him to do the same for industry. If he must throw overboard some of his present ideas on industrial planning and recognize that the State must adopt new techniques, this is well within his professed philosophy. 'In a constantly changing and evolving economic and social environment, the basic political principle must be capable of change and development likewise, or it will die and give place to something with life in it.'"

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 51

Section 1

December 12, 1941

TOWNSEND URGES INCREASED FARM PRODUCTION

AP report from Columbia (S.C.) in Baltimore Sun, December 11: M. Clifford Townsend, ADR Director, called yesterday for increased farm production of milk, eggs, cheese, and meat, and peanuts and soybeans for oil. Speaking to the National Association of Agricultural Officials, Townsend said in this war "food is an essential weapon, more powerful than the most deadly explosive, more dynamic than passionate appeals of orators." The speaker said there was no danger of overproduction of the products he mentioned. "Actually, there is greater possibility that when we have harvested the largest crops in history," he said, "we will still not have all we could dispose of in the case of many important commodities."

- - -

J.L.RICE SAYS FOOD SUPPLIES ARE AMPLE

New York Herald Tribune, December 11: Dr. John L. Rice, New York Health Commissioner, speaking yesterday at a meeting of the New York City Nutrition Committee, said food must not be hoarded during the war. "Proper nutrition of the American people," he said, "will be one of the potent factors in carrying us to victory. There must be no hoarding of food. There is no reason for it. There is enough food for everybody, and hoarding only contributes to scarcity of certain foods, rise in prices, and wastage. It is important that our people...know what an adequate diet is and why we need it." The committee has issued a pamphlet illustrating by charts and diagrams the calories, proteins, minerals, and vitamins of foods and explaining how these elements contribute to health.

- - -

DIVERSION PROGRAM FOR DARK TOBACCOS

The Department yesterday (Dec 11) announced a program for diversion of up to 12,000,000 pounds of fire-cured and dark air-cured tobaccos (U.S. Types 22, 23, 24, 35 and 36) into nicotine, salts of nicotine, tobacco extract, fertilizer material, insecticides, or other approved byproducts. The program is designed to encourage domestic use of these tobaccos, known as dark, heavy types. Payments of 1.5 cents per pound will be made by SMA which points out world trend has been away from heavy tobaccos for many years and reduction in production has not kept pace with reduction in export and domestic demand.

- - -

Caffeine
Prices Up

Business Week November 29: "Caffeine prices are threatening to get out of hand because of the increased war-born demand for it in medical preparations and the blackout of the Dutch chemical industry which supplied a large part of the world's requirements. Normally, contract customers can buy caffeine from chemical companies at \$2.75 a pound; recently speculators have been reported getting \$9 for it.

"There are only six commercially used vegetable sources of caffeine: coffee, tea, cocoa, guarana and yerba mate (South American plants), and the Christmas berry tree or cassina which grows on 40,000 acres in U. S. Southern States."

Post-War
Problems
in Wool

A. Foster du Plessie, chairman, International Wool Publicity and Research Secretariat, in Sheep Breeder, December: U. S. wool reserve at the end of the war may have a far-reaching influence on efforts to solve post-war problems of wool marketing. If administered wisely, it should safeguard against repetition of the disastrous slump after the last war. This reserve might become a nucleus for a comprehensive "buffer pool" along the lines of the Exchange Equalization Fund and based on Anglo-American cooperation.

Many schemes have been proposed. One that has received considerable attention is that suggested by L. St. Clare Grondona, in "National Reserves for Safety and Stabilization," and discussed in modified form by the Royal Empire Society some months ago. The scheme proposes a joint plan of action for a large number of primary commodities, and in this way seeks to avoid failure of marketing schemes for individual commodities.

AGMA Head Says
Food Supplies
Will Be Ample

New York Herald Tribune, December 9: The United States food industry is in a position today not only to meet wartime needs of the country's civilian population and expanded armed forces, but to continue to aid feeding our allies as well, Paul S. Willis, president of the Associated Grocery Manufacturers of America, said yesterday. He declared that food prices will be kept to lowest possible levels and that drastic increases in food costs as in the last war will not occur this time. This country is prepared for the Food for Freedom program, he said, having started an expanded program two years ago to meet such a situation, not waiting until outbreak of war.

Mr. Willis said the food industry has learned many new methods of packing and preserving foods since the last war so that foods are more nutritious and have less waste. He cited improved canning, quick freezing, dehydrating, drying, and compressing methods.

10-Year Sheep
Experiment

Sheep Breeder, December: The 600-acre Kenwood Sheep Farm, near Springwater, New York, is being operated in cooperation with the New York College of Agriculture, to determine possibilities of sheep production on marginal hill lands of the State. The experiment will run for 10 years.

Sand Dune
Control
Experiments

Wayne Miles, SCS, Tucumcari, New Mexico, in The Cattleman, December: "SCS has been experimenting with various methods of sand dune control for several years at Dalhart, Texas, and Clovis, New Mexico, and more recently has taken over a large dune stabilization project, to protect the right of way of the Santa Fe railroad near Las Animas, California....

"SCS experiments indicate the following treatment for dune areas: (1) Fence and keep out livestock; (2) plow up barren areas between dunes and contributing area...; (3) mulch dunes...; (4) plant to adapted grasses any stabilized area...Results offer hope that practical methods...may control many troublesome sand dune areas of the Southwest."

Sees Increased
Need for
Molasses

Editorial in Sugar, December: From the all-important angle of war requirements, the possibility of increasing the production of molasses looms larger than the problem of sugar itself. With certainty of a vast increase in alcohol needs, with high-test molasses as the best available source of alcohol, and with Cuba as the one country equipped to produce molasses in great quantity, this subject takes a leading place in defense. While production of alcohol from molasses amounted to nearly 100,000,000 gallons in 1940 and may rise to 125,000,000 in 1941, trade authorities estimate that no less than 200,000,000 gallons will be required from this source in 1942. This would consume an amount of cane equal to the production of roundly 1,500,000 tons of sugar.

Record Warm
Weather
in North

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, December 10: The past week, first of the current winter, was characterized by abnormally warm weather throughout the United States. Most interior sections of the country had bright, sunny weather with little precipitation, although good rains occurred in considerable portions of the persistently dry area of the East. In Central and Northern States east of the Rocky Mountains, temperatures averaged generally from 6° to 17° above normal. It was one of the warmest weeks of record for so late in the season in northern sections.

Future Hog
Production
Program

A. A. Dowell, in Hog Breeder, December: "Farmers seem to be on safe ground to expand hog production next spring as requested to meet 1942 goals set by the Government...It appears that plans for extension of the 1942 fall pig crop also can be made... The status of the war and Government policy must be carefully followed. It is important that hog producers adjust production to effective domestic and foreign demand."

OPM to Start
Salvage Drive
in Maryland

Washington report in Paper Trade Journal, December 4: Maryland has been selected by the Bureau of Industrial Conservation of OPM for launching its program to increase salvage of waste paper, rags, scrap metal and rubber, Lessing J. Rosenwald, chief of the bureau, has announced. The Maryland waste collection program, based on plans made by the bureau, will be executed by a State Salvage Committee, a new division of the State Defense Council. The bureau will provide informational and promotional material for distribution to homes, shops, farms and factories in the State.

Says Plant
Exploration
Increasing

Editorial in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, December: Many scientists have gone to other countries in search of new varieties of plants. This kind of work has gone steadily forward, but under war conditions even more of this type of work is going on. California State Experiment Station nurseries now include cork oak seedlings and guayule, a species of rubber bush. Word comes that Guatemala may compete with the Orient not only as a source of tea but of quinine. Large plantations of cinchona trees have been set out in Guatemala. Variety of climate, altitude and soils offered by the Americas are encouraging to scientists engaged in this work.

Detroit Defense
Garden Course

Seed World, December 5: A practical course in defense gardening, probably the first of its kind, sponsored by the Michigan Extension Service and Morse Seed Company, has started in Detroit. More than 200 men and women enrolled for the first lesson of the new night course. Laboratory periods are devoted to actual planting and use of garden tools, supplemented by slides and movies. Instruction in laying out and planning gardens to meet the needs of each gardener is feature of the course, which is free.

Biwing Is
Promising
Flax Variety

Business Week, November 29: At last week's convention of the Flax Institute of the United States in Minneapolis, one chief topic was the new flax variety, Biwing, which will be available commercially in 1943. Developed by A. C. Arny of the University of Minnesota, it is a cross between Bison and Red Wing flax and inherits the best characteristics of both in drying quality, oil content, bushel-per-acre yield, and resistance to rust and wilt. This year practically all U. S. cigarette paper is being made from Minnesota-grown flax. Only five years ago most of it was imported from France.

War Department
Considers Farm
Damage Claims

The War Department has sent a memorandum to commanding generals regarding settlement of claims of damages to farms and crops. It asks boards to consider interests of renters, tenants, sharecroppers, etc., as well as owners, and to check with USDA field offices on value of crops and extent of ownership.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 52

Section 1

December 15, 1941

USDA REORGANIZED FOR WARTIME PROGRAMS

Secretary Wickard, Saturday announced reorganization of Department administrative machinery and formation of an Agricultural Defense Board of 11 officials to assist in directing vital war-time programs. Nineteen line agencies are being placed in 8 groups headed by administrators.

R. M. Evans, AAA Administrator, becomes Administrator, and Dillon S. Myer, SCC Assistant Chief, becomes Assistant Administrator, of the Agricultural Adjustment and Conservation group. Under the Administrator of Agricultural Adjustment and Conservation will be AAA, SCS, FCIC, and Sugar Division.

Roy F. Hendrickson, SMA Administrator, becomes Administrator, and C.W. Kitchen, AMS Chief, becomes Assistant Administrator, of Agricultural Marketing. Under the Administrator of Agricultural Marketing will be SMA, CEA, and AMS except Division of Agricultural Statistics.

E. C. Auchter, BPI Chief, becomes Administrator of Agricultural Research. Under the Administrator of Agricultural Research will be BAI, BDI, BPI, BACE, BEPQ, OES, BRC, and BEE.

J. B. Hutson, CCC President, C. B. Baldwin, FSA Administrator, A.G. Black, FCA Governor, Harry Slattery, REA Administrator, and Earle H. Clapp, FS Acting Chief, are administrators but there have been no additions to their groups. Other Agricultural Defense Board Members are M. Clifford Townsend, OADR Director, H. R. Tolley, BAE Chief, and M. L. Wilson, Extension Director.

Secretary Wickard also made the following appointments: In addition to his duties as Land Use Coordinator, Milton S. Eisenhower has been designated Associate Director of Extension. Fred Wallace, Chairman of the Nebraska Agricultural Conservation Committee, becomes AAA Administrator. E. D. White, Assistant Director, CCC Cotton Division, becomes AAA Assistant Administrator. E. W. Gaumnitz, SMA Assistant Administrator, becomes SMA Administrator. Mr. Evans will continue to serve as Chairman, and Mr. Wallace and Mr. White will be members, of the FCIC Board of Directors. For the time being, Mr. Myer and Mr. Kitchen will continue their present agency positions in addition to duties as Assistant Administrators. Hugh H. Bennett will continue to be SCS Chief.

Secretary Wickard issued the following statement: To increase to the fullest possible extent the Department's contribution toward winning the war, I am reorganizing the administrative machinery. The 19 line agencies that now report directly to the Secretary are being grouped for more effective coordination under the direction of 8 group administrators. I am establishing an Agricultural Defense Board of 11 officials. Through this board and grouping of the agencies, we hope to contribute our maximum effort to the primary responsibility of American Agriculture during the emergency--the production of food and fiber needed by this country and her allies. To this task, all others must be subordinated.

Desiccation
of Frozen
Food Products

J. G. Woodroof, Georgia Experiment Station, in refrigerating Engineering, December: "Desiccation, of frozen products held in storage has been recognized as a major problem since establishment of the frozen foods industry. Not only may there be a loss in total weight, but a loss of flavors colors, bloom, and freshness...Desiccation may result in loss in weight of the products as high as 20 percent or more within a year. In poultry it produces discoloration, opacity and loss of natural bloom... The writer has shown that improperly packed and frozen berries lost more than 50 percent in weight during a year's storage and frozen vegetables lost 10 to 30 percent, while frozen beef lost about 7 percent."

Post-Defense
Food Program

Donald R. James, in Dynamic America, December: "When the struggle ends, or abates for a time, there will be urgent need for food in Europe. This need we must supply, for food is to be depended upon not only to win the war, but to write the peace. Ultimately, as Sir John Orr has recently suggested, Great Britain and the United States should pool their resources, so that each can produce and supply the other with those products it can most easily and economically make available. This means that we must produce much of Britain's food. Such mutually supplementary or reciprocal economy should ultimately be extended throughout the entire world.

"As Leon Henderson said in a speech not long ago, 'If employment can be provided for the production of armaments it can be provided for consumers' goods when we no longer need to produce armaments. Once the people learn that lesson, no political party, no government, can long permit widespread unemployment to continue. The people are slow to learn, but they learn well.' The head of the AAA has echoed this by saying that the United States is sufficiently rich agriculturally to see to it that no citizen goes underfed again. This means that all our people must be fed complete diets after the emergency, and agriculture better prepare for that."

State College
Farm Repair
"Schools"

Northwest Farm Equipment Journal, December: Along with the campaign of the USDA in Washington and the county agricultural defense boards for repair of farm machinery is a parallel one, the promotion of "repair schools" by land-grant colleges and universities. The purpose of these schools (the idea is not new) is to make farmers, their sons and hired men more proficient in the day-to-day care and operation of tractors and machinery.

Farm Equipment
Workers' Plan

AP report from Chicago in New York Times, December 12: Officials of five International Harvester plants in Illinois and of the CIO farm equipment workers organizing committee last night announced an agreement on general terms of a contract to continue for the duration of the war and in no case end for two years. Terms of the contract, affecting about 20,000 employees, were not disclosed, pending approval by union locals.

Malnutrition
Widespread in
United States

T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, in Medical Record, December 3: "In his second inaugural address, President Roosevelt mentioned that one-third of the nation was ill-fed. Investigation by BHE scientists indicates he was about right. The findings were also independently confirmed by a survey by the American Institute of Public Opinion, reported in the New York Times of December 22, 1940. The survey indicated that four families out of every ten felt they were going without foods they required to complete their diets. They attributed this to lack of money. That meant that about twenty million families, not individuals, felt their diets were inadequate to promote full health.

"These people were asked what they would buy in the way of food if they had more money and they cited meat, vegetables, dairy products--milk, especially, in order. Only twenty percent of those who earned twenty dollars per family per week were conscious of dietary lacks, but seventy percent of those earning less than this felt that they were ill-fed. Proof piles up that malnutrition is widespread in the United States."

Urges Post
War Food
Programs

Nature (London, October 18): The great opportunity offered by concerted action in international post-war relief is best expressed in the words of Mr. Philip Noel-Baker (at the Conference on Science and World Order). He recalled that President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill have emphasized the need for building up a stock of food for post-war distribution.

"The allied Council has drawn up plans for assembling, transporting and distributing such stocks. We know that Europe will be bankrupt, that this work will have to be done on lend-lease lines... If the Government would treat relief as the first step in a long-term policy of world-wide scope, if they would hand it over to international control, if they would use that opportunity to replan for a new system, and mobilize behind it all the dynamic power of opinion that supports the Atlantic Charter, a new perspective of human welfare would indeed be opened up."

Agricultural
Sciences Society
Meets Dec. 17

The third Washington meeting of the U. S. Chapter of the American Society of Agricultural Sciences for this season will be held Wednesday, December 17, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Hall of Flags, Pan American Union Building. Mr. Karl Olsen, student of government and Latin-American history and world traveler, who has recently returned from a 6-months' visit in South and Central America, will speak on Agriculture in Latin America and Its Relation to Ourselves. He is information specialist in the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

Plant Stores
Cranberries,
Fur Coats

Quick Frozen Foods, November: A 100-unit food locker plant recently opened at Black River Falls, Wisconsin, one of the State's chief cranberry-producing areas, features freezing and storing of cranberries. An added feature is a fur-coat storage service during summer months. Coats are stored in a steel strong box for \$1.

Veterinary Survey

By arrangement with governments of Argentina and Chile, Dr. S. O. Fladness, Chief of BAI Field Inspection Division, has left to obtain first-hand information on livestock and animals diseases there. The survey will continue for approximately two months. Doctor Fladness' observations will include particularly the southern part of South America, including the Island of Tierra del Fuego, which comprises parts of Argentina and Chile, where he will investigate whether foot-and-mouth disease exists.

Farm Employment
Shows Increase
Over Year Ago

More people were working on farms December 1 than a year earlier, despite increased demand for men in war industries and enlistments in armed forces, the Department reports. A prolonged harvest season because of a wet fall, favorable conditions for farm work around December 1, and diminished supply of farm workers earlier are believed to account for the less-than-seasonal decrease during November.

The number of persons working in agriculture December 1 was estimated at 9,349,000 compared with 9,320,000 a year earlier. This was a drop from 10,420,000 persons November 1, but the decline was less than usual. All parts of the country show this seasonal slump, but it was lighter than last year in all except the Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic, and East South Central States.

Urges Care
in Food
Storage

Everybody's Poultry Magazine, December: Farm storage of feed is expected to increase greatly during the coming weeks and months. Delays in transportation make temporary shortages possible. A few rules are: Do not accept feed that has become wet before it reaches you. See that storage room is dry. Prevent spread of disease by storing empty feed sacks away from the feed. Keep feed in bags until ready to use it. Empty bags daily. Clean feed bin frequently. Spray feed storage room regularly to kill mites, beetles, worms and moths, and carry on regular program against rats and mice.

Protect feed by placing it on a rack and keeping back and sides of pile away from wall. Never let sun shine directly on bags, and close windows when humidity is high to prevent circulation of air. Always use the oldest feed first.

Canadian Hog
Producers Raise
Yorkshires

National Live Stock Producer, December: A Corn Belt producer who has not been in Canada for 3 or 4 years will be amazed at the number of white hogs he sees. Everywhere on farms and ranches are excellent type Yorkshires. Canadian hog producers have standardized their breed to meet British demands for Wiltshire sides, and have found the Yorkshire hog is best adapted for that purpose.

They have also introduced rail grading, whereby settlement with the grower is made on the basis of dressed weights. This practice, however, is criticized by growers because of a shortage of Government graders and because hog producers have no representative on the grading boards.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 53

Section 1

December 16, 1941

NEW YORK STATE NUTRITION PROGRAM

AP report to New York Times, December 16: A call for home economists and nutrition experts, who would direct feeding of civilians driven from heavily populated areas by air raids, was made yesterday from New York defense officials. Establishment of a permanent Nutrition Advisory Council was announced by Mrs. Winthrop Pennock, State Director of Volunteer Defense Workers, who presided at a conference of dieticians from Cornell University, Red Cross, hotel associations, and State Health Department.

At least 20,000 home economists and dieticians are available in New York State for service at once, and the Red Cross and county nutrition committees are collaborating on a program to train volunteers, said Mrs. Pennock. Practical training will be procured through the free lunch program in public schools and a new plan for setting up canteens to sell hot luncheons to defense workers.

SENATE VOTES FARM RELIEF PAYMENTS

AP report in New York Times, December 16: The Senate voted yesterday to provide special relief payments for growers of cotton, tobacco, and hay and other forage crops suffering losses because of drought, excessive rainfall, or insect damage. It approved legislation which would set aside unused parity funds to make payments. In areas where the Secretary of Agriculture determined that failure of forage crops threatened substantial reduction in milk production needed for defense, he would be authorized to make grants to dairy farmers.

BRITISH FOOD RATIONS UNCHANGED

London wireless to New York Times, December 16: No immediate change in British food rations will be necessary as a result of extension of war to the Pacific, Lord Woolton, Food Minister, said yesterday in speaking at the opening of a canteen. He said the British could look to the future with confidence in regard to food, as events of the last 10 days had not caught the Ministry of Food unawares.

AID APPROVED FOR THREE DAIRY COOPERATIVES

The Department has approved financial aid for three cooperative dairy plants to expand facilities to manufacture cheese and evaporated milk. Juneau Dairyland Cooperative Creamery, Juneau, Wisconsin, will expand plant capacity to manufacture evaporated milk; Itasca County Cooperative Creamery Association, Bovey, Minnesota, and Land O'Lakes Dairy Company, Faribault, Minnesota, will expand plant facilities to manufacture cheese. Expansion will assist in getting dairy products needed to meet wartime demands.

Loan Programs
Contribute
To Defense

Reserves of food, feed, and fiber stored in the Ever-Normal Granary in times of abundance under commodity loans are effectively contributing to national defense, J. E. Hutson, CCC President, says in his annual report. Lend-lease requirements for cotton, corn, tobacco, wheat and naval stores are supplied from stocks accumulated through CCC loans and purchases, while corn reserves accumulated in years of surplus provide additional feed required for expanded production of pork, dairy, and poultry products.

CCC loans and purchases amounted to approximately \$513,000,000 during the fiscal year 1941. The commodities include cotton, corn, wheat, rye, barley, grain sorghums, tobacco, peanuts, prunes, raisins, turpentine, rosin, dairy products, and seed for conservation practices.

Sanitation in
Frozen-Egg
Breaking Rooms

Refrigerating Engineering, December: "In the early days of the frozen egg industry, insanitary conditions prevailing in most of the breaking rooms went far toward discrediting the industry and the product. After cooperative, constructive study of the industry by the Bureau of Chemistry, had brought order out of chaos, breaking rooms of plants which set the standard were as sanitary as an operating room in a hospital. Walls were tiled or cement, white enameled and waterproof, Floors were smooth cement. Windows were treble paned for insulation. Temperature maintained was between 55-60 F. Filtered atmospheric air from time to time kept the rooms fresh. Hosing down with hot water every night kept the walls and floor clean. Wash bowls with running water were available for hand cleaning after breaking an inedible egg. Many present breaking rooms perpetuate these essentials of cleanliness."

Trends in
Poultry
Research

Carl H. Schroeder reviews reports given at the annual meeting of the Poultry Science Association, in Everybody's Poultry Magazine, December: "Chicks are affected by parents' feed. Tests with turkeys at Washington Experiment Station, by E. I. Robertson, M. Rhian and L. A. Wilhelm, showed poults from hens receiving vitamin D and exposed to sunlight grew faster than poults from hens fed vitamin D but no sunlight.

Chicks emerging from the shell early tend to be superior, according to Dr. F. A. Hays, Massachusetts Agricultural College. Chicks which broke through the shell earlier had greater livability than slow hatching incubator-mates. The slow hatching chicks were somewhat slower coming into production and laid fewer eggs.

Detection of fertility in a fresh egg, without any pre-incubation period, has long been the hope of every incubator operator. Dr. A. L. Romanoff of Cornell University has for many years explored this problem, arriving at the conclusion that, first of all, the exact seat of the difference in electric behavior between an infertile and a fertile egg has to be determined. These preliminary studies demonstrated that the albumen rather than the yolk is responsible for differences in conductivity.

Rocky Mt. Tunnel
Will Carry Water
To Arid Farmland

Newsweek, December 15: The Government is tapping Grand Lake, which lies at the headwaters of the Colorado River on the western side of the Continental Divide, with a 13-mile tunnel which will carry water beneath lakes and glaciers of the mountains to the eastern slope, which contains the State of Colorado's chief agricultural area. Farmland in a 1,481,000-acre region suffers from chronic water shortage. Annual drought losses to wheat, corn, and other crops reached a high of \$13,000,000 in 1934 and have averaged \$7,000,000 yearly during the past decade.

Work on the vast project, started in summer, 1940, with workers boring through the earth from both ends at once, and latest progress was revealed last week. Three concerns are doing the work. One has already drilled more than 19,000 feet from the east end of the tunnel, while the other two have burrowed nearly 7,000 feet from the west end, the end that will tap Grand Lake. This section starts below the water's level, but about 100 feet from the lake itself, leaving a natural dam of earth. When the rest of the tunnel is completed, the last 100 feet will be blasted away, releasing the flood for its trip under the Divide.

Plant Pests
Imported
By Accident

A large percentage of our important plant pests could be classed immigrants from foreign countries, states Bureau of Plant Industry of Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Even more significant is that in many instances introduction of pests has been accidental or brought about by unimportant or unnecessary importation.

San Jose scale came on a shipment of flowering peach sent by a missionary in China to San Jose, California, about 1870. Chestnut blight found its way on Japanese chestnuts imported to complete a collection. Hessian fly, is believed to have come in straw imported by Hessian troops during the Revolutionary War. Oriental fruit moth came in shipments of Japanese cherry for ornamental use. European corn borer in importations of broom corn from Europe. Japanese beetle undoubtedly entered from Japan in bulbs or ornamental plants. Gypsy moth gained a foothold when it escaped from the cage of an amateur who brought it to this country in an attempt to develop an American type of silkworm. Dutch elm disease found its way in elm logs imported by furniture factories for manufacturing veneer.

Federal and State quarantines do not aim to exclude plants and plant products from other countries but to safeguard importations so introduction of injurious pests may be reduced to a minimum. (Hoard's Dairyman)

U.S.D.A. Officials
Say U.S. Food
Supplies Ample

New York Times, December 13: Ralph W. Olmstead Assistant to the SMA Administrator, and Donald E. Montgomery, AAA Consumers Counsel, yesterday said there is no shortage of food in the U.S. and there is not likely to be throughout the war. Speaking at a meeting called by William Fellowes Morgan, Jr., New York Commissioner of Markets, they said food reserves and production are so high that needs of the country can be taken care of and sending of supplies to Great Britain can continue. There is no justification for hoarding of food, they declared.

"Vitamin-Toys"
For British
Children

New York Herald Tribune, December 10: A plan to send vitamins and toys to British children was presented yesterday at the 20th annual meeting of the English Speaking Union of the United States in New York City. Mrs. Cecile Stewart, chairman of the war relief workroom on the union, said through sale of "vitamin-toys," funds will be provided to purchase and send toys and vitamin tablets to England. Vitamins will be distributed under the British Ministry of Health. Prices for "vitamin-toys" will range from \$1 to \$100. They will be offered for sale to the public in a national campaign, Mrs. Stewart said.

Fertilizer
Tag Sales
Increase

New York Journal of Commerce, December 12: Fertilizer sales in November in 17 States amounted to 188,800 tons, according to reports of tag sales by State control officials to the National Fertilizer Association. Contrary to the usual seasonal decline from October to November, sales in November 1941 were 83,000 tons larger than a year ago. Largest increases for the month were in North Carolina, Mississippi, and Florida.

AFBF Urges
Inflation
Prevention

UP report to New York Journal of Commerce, December 13: AFBF yesterday called on the Federal Government to set immediate price ceilings on industrial and farm commodities to prevent "disastrous inflation" during the national emergency. Closing its 43rd annual convention, the Federation pledged "mobilization for absolute victory" on behalf of its 500,000 farmer members. The group also asked that selective service administrators defer skilled farm labor on the same basis as skilled industrial workers and that priorities officials assure agriculture necessary repair parts, replacements, and new equipment.

Cold Storage
Holdings

Stocks of frozen fruits, frozen vegetables, butter, cheese, frozen eggs, frozen poultry, and frozen and cured beef December 1 were well in excess of holdings on December 1, 1940, and the December 1936-40 5-year average.

Fresh apples, shell eggs and frozen and cured pork stocks were well below those of a year ago and the five-year average. Lard holdings were below those of December 1, 1940, but considerably above the December 1 average.

Sets Price
Ceilings on
Fats, Oils

New York Journal of Commerce, December 13: CPA yesterday set price ceilings on all imported and domestic fats and oils, excluding only butter, "essential oils," mineral oils, and chemical oils. The schedule, which embraces some 1,800 items and becomes effective immediately, freezes prices at November 26 levels. This action, which applies limitations for the first time to purely domestic agricultural raw commodities, was compelled by the fact that needed restrictions on prices of major import fats and oils such as coconut palm oil, could not be effected without simultaneously fixing maximum price levels for such leading domestic commodities as lard and cottonseed oil.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 54

Section 1

December 17, 1941

STATE 1942 COTTON ALLOTMENTS ABOUT SAME AS IN 1941

Preliminary State cotton acreage allotments total approximately 26,598,000 acres for 1942. The allotments do not include acreage increases to be made to growers under the minimum farm allotments of the Agricultural Adjustment Act. The 1942 allotments are about the same as 1941 and will result in an allotted acreage of approximately 27,400,000.

PROGRESS IN LIVESTOCK RESEARCH

In his annual report Dr. John R. Mohler, BAI Chief, describes a wide range of Federal activities that have contributed to the Nation's livestock resources. The call for more livestock products under the Food-for-Freedom Program places further emphasis on need for research and livestock diseases and application of research in livestock production. Through continued study of control methods and action against diseases of domestic animals, BAI seeks to reduce animal diseases and provide greater economy in production.

REDUCE COTTON EXPORT RATE TO ZERO

Effective, December 19, rates of payment under the 1941-42 Cotton Products Export Program will be reduced to zero. Department officials took this step largely as the result of the war with Japan. Hostilities will prevent cotton products from the two countries from entering the same markets in any important volume.

FARM-HOME TALKS, WEEK OF DEC. 22

Among radio talks scheduled for week of December 22 are the following: December 23--American Agriculture Mobilizes: The Beef Cattleman and Food for Freedom; December 24--Agriculture in Latin America: Make Mine Chocolate, Bertha C. Meridan, FAR; December 26-- On the Food Production Front, No. 1 John C. Baker, Information.

RECORD DAILY COTTON CONSUMPTION

New York Journal of Commerce, December 16: Bureau of Census reported yesterday that consumption of all cottons in the United States in November was 849,733 running bales, indicating a new record daily rate of about 43,600 bales. The total compares with 953,600 bales consumed in October and 741,170 in November 1940. The smaller total for last month is due to several holidays.

Pharmacists
Consider
Drug Supplies

Business Week, December 13, reporting last week's meeting of American Pharmaceutical Association in Washington: "With medicinal chemicals pretty well in hand, the weakest spot in the U.S. drug picture will be the botanicals--drugs made from plant materials and primarily imported in normal times from southern Europe, northern Africa, and Asia where they grow wild and need only cheap labor for their collection. Although not as widely used or as important in U.S. therapeutics as a decade or two ago, there are still some botanical drugs that are essential--for example, digitalis for the heart, ergot for childbirth.

"As the war spread, shutting off additional sources of supply, efforts were started to encourage growth of botanicals in the U.S. and Latin America. However, with a few exceptions 1941 plantings were disappointments. Unusual weather conditions, unexpected cultivation problems, high-cost labor, and inexperience combined to cut down domestic botanical production, but leading U. S. houses are planning to try again next year."

Calif. Joins
Food for
Freedom Plan

Editorial in California Cultivator, November 29: "The call for more and more of the vital foods which strengthen both the body and the morale of every person engaged in fighting the battle for democracy, has not gone unheeded by farmers of California. Thousands and thousands recently took time off to register with their defense boards and show their willingness to do all they can to increase production so that free people in all parts of the world may receive more food--the proper kinds of food--than they have been getting recently.

"Increased production calls for greater attention to cultural problems, fertilization, cultivation, irrigation and pest control, of field and tree crops and better feeding and care of poultry and livestock."

Buckwheat
for Rabbits

The USDA Rabbit Experiment Station at Fontana, California, has been testing buckwheat for rabbits, says George S. Templeton, of the station, in Pacific Rural Press, November 29. "Rabbits require a week to ten days to become accustomed to whole buckwheat seed but once they are accustomed to it they eat it as readily as oats, wheat or barley. When combined properly with grains, a protein supplement, and roughage it proves a satisfactory feed for rabbits."

Says "Plain
People" make
Good Farmers

F. A. Rankin, SCS Division of Information in Soil Conservation, December: "For over 200 years the 'plain people' of Pennsylvania have ranked among the finest farmers in the world. This is the story of the Mennonites, Amish, Dunkards, Brethren, and other plain people and their land. The 'plain people' have lived close to the soil--and prospered for it. Even in rich Pennsylvania, much of the land has been overworked. Soil erosion has begun to show up on the rolling lands of the 'plain people'. Erosion has begun to sap the vitality from the soil. Conservative, slow-to-change, yet devoted to the soil, the 'plain people' of Pennsylvania have awakened to the danger of soil erosion and are successfully defending their land by terraces, contour cultivation, strip cropping, and other erosion control practices."

Milk in
The Army

Hoard's Dairyman, December 10: James P. Johnston, civilian consultant to the Quartermaster General, speaking this fall at the annual convention of the International Association of Milk Dealers, at Toronto, said: "Milk is in the army now because the more milk we get, the more fight we get out of the soldier. Milk in the adult diet improves both physical and mental well-being....We are doing everything we can to increase consumption of milk among our soldiers. Daily garrison ration per man contains eight ounces of fresh milk, one ounce of evaporated milk, two ounces of butter, and a quarter ounce of cheese. In 1776 one pint of milk was prescribed, but not often obtained. After this, fresh milk disappeared from the prescribed U. S. army ration for over 150 years.The Quartermaster Corps' milk bill at present amounts to about sixteen and one-half million dollars annually for purchase of one and one-half million half pints of fresh milk daily. As one of the nation's largest consumers of milk, the army is teaching nutrition by example."

Deer Creek Dam
Provides Water
for Farmland

Utah Farmer, November 25: Deer Creek Dam on the Provo River reclamation project in Utah has been completed, placing in operation the 81st water storage reservoir on reclamation projects in the West. The new dam is the second largest earthfill structure completed by the Bureau of Reclamation. The largest--Vallecito Dam on the Pine River reclamation project in southwestern Colorado--was completed about two months ago. The new reservoir has already impounded several thousand acre-feet of water for irrigating the Provo River project of 100,000 acres, the largest reclamation project in the state and one of the first irrigation enterprises developed in the United States.

Order Chicks
Early for
Hatching

Michigan Farmer, December 13: We have stressed before the necessity of ordering chicks early for this coming hatching season. This is so important we mention it again. The coming season is going to be a strong hatching season and already orders are coming into the hatcheries.

There are many advantages of early chicks over late chicks. They mature at a season of the year when the weather is cooler and more uniform. Disease is less prevalent. Broilers mature at a time of best broiler prices. Pullets come into production at a time of high egg prices. Chicks are out of the brooder house in time for a second brood if desirable. Chicks are raised at a time of the year when more labor is available.

Gallup Poll
on Vitamin
Knowledge

Gallup Poll on public health questions, in Washington Post, December 7: Majority of persons in U.S. have heard about specific vitamins, particularly vitamin B-1 in recent months, and can name many foods rich in a given vitamin, but few housewives can define a vitamin or explain the difference between a vitamin and a calorie. Only a small minority believe that vitamins are a passing fad--evidence of the success of the educational campaign of health authorities on vitamins. Publicity about vitamins has greater interest to women than to men.

World Tea
Committee
Report

London report in Tea and Coffee Trade Journal, December: The report of the International Tea Committee for the 8th year of regulation, April 1, 1940 to March 31, 1941, has been issued. The report gives reasons for changes in the tea export quota for the year, caused for the most part by rapidly changing war conditions. The war has made impossible complete tea statistics, although figures on actual export quotas and carryovers for India, Ceylon, and Netherland Indies are given.

The Journal also says the outstanding tea problem in the U.S. tea industry at present (according to Benjamin Wood, director of the Tea Bureau) is impending shortage of green teas, produced chiefly in Japan and Japanese-dominated areas. Green tea imports have already begun to decline and may be difficult to obtain after March 1942.

Plan Volunteer
"Land Corps"
for Vt. Farms.

New York Times, December 7: Plans for formation of a "volunteer land corps," to consist of high-school and college students working on Vermont farms next summer at "soldiers' wages," were announced yesterday by Dorothy Thompson at the tenth regional New York conference of the Progressive Education Association. Vermont was chosen, Miss Thompson said, because it is a farming State with many small family farm units. The plan is being undertaken by the Ring of Freedom organization, but will be operated entirely by the young men and women themselves. Although a "work camp" idea has been in operation in this country for the past six years, the "land corps" program is basically different. The youth will live in the homes of the farmers and not in central camps.

Christmas
Tree Fire
Prevention

American City, December: After testing various chemical treatments for making spruce and balsam-fir trees less inflammable at Christmas, the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory reports that keeping the tree standing in water is about the most practical and convenient method of lessening the fire hazard and preventing needles from discoloring and falling off. It recommends: 1) Buy a tree that has been cut as recently as possible; 2) cut off the end of the trunk diagonally at least one inch above the original cut end, stand the tree at once in a container of water, and keep the water level above the cut surface.

Regardless of treatment, all possible precautions should be taken against fire around the Christmas tree, including elimination of defective electrical connections and avoidance of combustible decorations on or beneath the tree. Place the tree so that accidental burning would not ignite curtains or other combustible furnishings nor trap room occupants.

Pamphlet
on Grade
Labeling

Business Week, December 13: The Association of National Advertisers has just issued a pamphlet, the Movement for Standardization and Grading of Consumer Goods, prepared by George B. Hotchkiss, professor of marketing, New York University. The pamphlet cites virtually all the writings, surveys, etc., issued on the subject of grade labeling during the past two years.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 55

Section 1

December 18, 1941

FARM PRODUCTION FOR VICTORY

Secretary Wickard, in a radio address December 17 over the National Farm and Home Hour, said: "Every farm family is a squad in the production army that this Nation has mobilized to turn back the forces of tyranny. The assignment of the farm families is to throw the great weight of maximum farm production into the scales against the Axis powers...

"We are well along with the plans to point the effort of every farm family toward producing just what is needed from its farm for the war effort. We started the job last summer. In the early fall I toured the country setting forth the defense requirements of the Nation for farm products. Since then, 135 thousand farm committeemen have visited their neighbors...Production to meet the Nation's needs with precision is as essential in agriculture as it is in industry."

CCC TO SELL POOLED WHEAT

The Department has announced sales plan under which CCC will offer 1939 and 1940 pooled wheat at the market price, but not less than 15 cents over the 1941 loan value at point of storage. The premiums and discounts under the 1941 loan program for differences in grades and quality (including protein, smut, and garlic) will be included in determining the sales prices.

NOV. HATCHERY PRODUCTION SETS RECORD

Production of baby chicks by commercial hatcheries during November was estimated at 21,929,000 chicks, a new high record for that month and 66 percent larger than the previous record of November last year. Most of the chicks were for commercial broiler production.

PLAN TO PROVIDE HAWAII WITH FOOD, FEED, AND SEED

A program for supplying food, feed, and seed to meet civilian needs in Hawaii will operate through a revolving fund established with an initial \$10,000,000 from funds appropriated by Congress to the President. It will be administered by the Department Agricultural Marketing Administration, recently established by Secretary Wickard consolidating the work of SMA, AMS, and CEA.

"Under the program," Roy F. Hendrickson, Agricultural Marketing Administrator, said, "required supplies of food, feed, and seed will be bought, shipped, and stored for Hawaii. Supplies will be turned over for sale to civilians through regular trade channels in Hawaii. Distributors will pay for supplies on the basis of cost of the products on the mainland, plus transportation, storage, and other handling charges. These receipts will be used to reimburse the revolving fund." Hawaii has a population of around 423,000 and is dependent on the States for the bulk of its supplies, especially food and livestock feed.

Purdue Winter
Course To Begin
January 19

Hoosier Farmer, December: Purdue University will give a course of 8 weeks, January 19 to March 13, in improved and practical methods of breeding, feeding, and judging livestock. The courses offered include disease control, sanitation, pasture and forage crops, and organization of the livestock farm.

ABA Agricultural
Commission
Program

Banking, December: The Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association has the following objectives: (1) To promote better public and customer relationships with farmers; (2) to aid in improvement of economic and social conditions in rural communities; (3) to foster better understanding by bankers of the relation between agriculture and economic welfare of the nation; (4) to help keep banking practices adjusted to agricultural needs.

Special efforts are made to bring about close relations with State colleges of agriculture. Agricultural short courses for bankers have been held by 26 States. Many bankers have taken part in county and Statewide banker-farmer tours and demonstrations in cooperation with the Extension Service. Thirty-eight States have appointed **county key** bankers to represent agricultural committees in their counties and to contact Extension agents and others. During the past year arrangements were completed with BAE for a quarterly report on the agricultural situation in relating to banking.

Rubber Planting
Program Ahead of
Outbreak of War

Despite war in the Pacific, the program to re-establish rubber production in the Western Hemisphere will proceed on schedule. Large quantities of propagating material from the most promising strains in the East have already been established in the Americas. A final shipment of 5,500 budded trees from the Philippines recently reached American shores safely.

Nearly 15 million rubber seeds have been planted in Latin America since the program started about a year ago. This includes about 5 million seeds planted by U. S. commercial interests. Remainder have been planted as part of the cooperative rubber program of the Department and 12 Latin American governments.

Plantations
to Make FSA
Dairy Co-ops

AP report from Montgomery (Ala.) in Arkansas Gazette, December 7: Acquisition of 99-year leases on old plantations in Alabama's Black Belt for developing dairy cooperatives for small farmers was announced yesterday by the FSA. With two other leases for 40 years, the land involved includes more than 24,000 acres in Greene County, comprising a dozen old plantations. Another lease for 40 years has been made for 4,143 acres belonging to a company in Greenville, La. Five "leasing cooperatives" will be set up by the FSA, Regional Director, D.S. Morgan said. Farmers joining a cooperative will become leases, paying rent from proceeds of dairy and other cash enterprises. No capital investment in land is needed under the leasing plan.

Loaders Reduce
Sugar-Beet
Labor

E. V. Sauve, Michigan State College, in Sugar Beet Journal, December: Commercial sugar-beet loaders are not yet readily obtainable, but manual labor has been considerably reduced with home-made loaders. A recent survey of home-made beet loaders showed that larger beet growers prefer a loader that is assembled on a truck and driven from a power take-off. The beet grower of small acreage favors the loader unit which can be transported on its own wheels.

Says Wickard
Inspires
Confidence

Editorial comment in Commercial Appeal, November 23: Secretary of Agriculture Wickard is organizing farmers in a nationwide program to conserve national resources. His performance has been one to inspire confidence. A successful man who came up the hard way, he is cautious about embracing schemes until he has examined them carefully, but once convinced of their soundness, he puts them in action with thoroughness and minimum of fanfare. He can be shown weaknesses in a course contemplated and can accept a suggestion, regardless of the source, provided it is a good one.

USDA Improves
Bay Leaf
Distillation

Noemi G. Arrillaga and Merriam Jones, of the USDA Puerto Rico Experiment Station, are authors of an article on use of salt in distilling bay leaves, in American Perfumer and Essential Oil Review, December. Bay oil is the only essential oil produced on a commercial scale in Puerto Rico, they say. Some of the oil is used in manufacture of bay rum, and 30,000 to 35,000 pounds are sent annually to continental United States. Lack of uniformity in the bay oil has limited its use in some pharmaceutical industries in the United States, and the USDA work makes possible a more uniform product.

Synthetic
Pine Oil
Developed

News Edition (American Chemical Society) December 10: A new process for synthetic production of pine oil from gum turpentine has been announced by the Hercules Powder Company of Wilmington, Delaware. The process produces synthetic pine oil of substantially the same chemical and physical properties as natural pine oil. Laboratory and plant tests indicate the new pine oil is suitable for all important uses of natural oil: textile wet finishing, paint and varnish manufacture, paper coating, essential oils, industrial and commercial laundering, disinfectants, liquid hand and scrub soaps, industrial cleansers, cattle sprays, rag boiling, leather processing, flotation agents in mining metals, metal polishes, pine-scented bar soaps, and solvent for synthetic resins. Pine oil is now needed in great quantities for separation of metals from their ores.

Says Iodine
Supply Ample

News Edition (American Chemical Society) December 10: Despite two years of record iodine consumption in the pharmaceutical, animal feeding, and industrial fields and use of considerably more than 1,000,000 pounds of crude iodine during the year ended June 30, the supply is ample.

N.H. Station Durham, N.H., report in American Lumberman,
Wood Waste December 13: Completion of a campaign to raise
Research \$2,500 from individuals and wood-using industries
in New Hampshire, to match an equal amount appropriated by the 1941 State legislature for research on wood-waste utilization at the New Hampshire Experiment Station, has been announced. The station has nearly finished development of a plastic material from wood waste. Patent royalties and other license revenue are to be made available to the station for additional research on forest products.

Canned Product Western Canner and Packer, December: A product
Made From made from fresh cream, to which has been added
Fresh Cream edible vegetable stabilizer to keep the milk solids
from separating, is now being packed in vapor-vacuum sealed cans for export trade and will be packaged in glass for domestic markets. The product retains much of the fresh cream flavor and has no "canned milk taste," it is reported. It is packed in two types similar to fresh cream; whipping cream and "coffee" cream. The product is not intended to replace fresh cream, but to supplement its use.

Ursolic Acid, Western Canner and Packer, December, contains
Oil, Wax from an article, Dollars From Cranberry Waste, by Walter
Cranberries A. Nealy, research director of a company at Hanson, Mass. Ursolic acid, cranberry seed oil, and cranberry wax recovered from the skin and seed of cranberries may add \$1,000,000 annually to value of United States cranberry production. The acid, wax, and oil are now being produced on a pilot-plant scale.

Chinese Food Canning Age, December: A 3-year plan for in-
Production Plan creasing food production in unoccupied China for military and civilian requirements has been announced, according to the Department of Commerce. The goal for 1941 has been set at 1,743,500 tons in excess of last year. The Ministry of Agriculture is encouraging increased food production through loans to various provinces and services of technical staffs. Special effort is being made to popularize new seeds and farming methods.

Boric Acid News Edition (American Chemical Society)
Kills Powder December 10: Substantial saving of timber has
Post Borers been effected in Australia through a new boric-acid method to protect timber against powder post borers. The process was announced in August in the Australian publication, Journal of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Experiments of the Division of Forest Products showed that small amounts of sodium fluosilicate and boric acid were effective. The former was more toxic but involved some health hazards. The boric-acid process has been in commercial use for about two years.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 56

Section 1

December 19, 1941

FSA REPAYMENTS INCREASE 75 PERCENT

Low-income farm families have stepped up repayments on farm rehabilitation loans. The rise in loan collections reflects good crops, higher farm prices, and improved farm and home management practices. FSA figures show that repayments by more than 624,000 borrower families between July 1 and October 31 increased 75.4 percent over last year. A total of \$34,120,385.71 was repaid during the 4-month period this year as against \$19,449,198.25 in 1940. The increase in repayments on rehabilitation loans shows FSA borrowers are playing an important part in the Nation's Food for Freedom campaign, according to C. B. Baldwin, FSA Administrator.

OPA ESTABLISHES CEILINGS FOR WOOL PRODUCTS

New York Times, December 19: Raw wool, wool tops, and wool yarns were subjected to price ceilings yesterday by OPA. The products must not be sold at prices higher than those which prevailed between October 1 and 6. Price Administrator Henderson said 60 percent of all wool consumed in this country comes from abroad, principally South America, Australia, and South Africa. With war in the Pacific threatening curtailment of imports, it is imperative to protect civilians against increases in cost of clothing, blankets and other articles essential to health and well-being. Yesterday's schedule applies to all forms of selling, including futures and spot, but does not include retail sales of wool yarns.

PROPOSED TRUCK MERGER OPPOSED

New York Times, December 19: The Department of Agriculture yesterday added its weight before the Interstate Commerce Commission to a protest by the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice against the proposed merger of eight Atlantic Seaboard trucking companies by Associated Transport, Inc. Secretary Wickard said he wished to endorse all the arguments of the division against the merger. Its consummation could result in a practical monopoly in motor transportation throughout the area involved, he said, and strong probability existed that it would result in regulation of rail and motor transportation.

WOULD CALL NICOTINIC ACID "NIAMID"

News Edition (American Chemical Society) December 10: Change of the name of nicotinic acid to "niamid" was urged by Dr. James A. Tobey at a meeting of the New York City Public Health Association. Since other important vitamins of the B group bear such names as thiamin and riboflavin, nicotinic acid should have a better name, says Dr. Tobey, who is chairman of the national defense committee of the Institute of Food Technologists.

Article on
Smoke Jumpers

Wood (London) for October contains an article on forest-fire fighting in United States by use of airplanes and autogiros. The article describes "smoke jumpers" of the Forest Service.

OPM Health
Supplies Branch

American Perfumer and Essential Oil Review, December: The new Health Supplies Branch of OPM is designed chiefly to administer the health supplies rating plan, which creates classification of certain drugs and wares essential to the health of the civilian population. A statement said the branch will have "jurisdiction over drugs, medicines, surgical supplies, dental supplies, hospital supplies, toilet goods and cosmetics."

Plastic Wood,
Prevention
of Decay

Agricultural News Letter (Du Pont) for Nov.-Dec.: So much interest has been shown in plastic wood for national defense as well as normal industrial uses that we reproduce by permission, a bulletin on this subject by W.K. Loughborough, of the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin. It emphasizes the plasticizing properties of urea and deals with the mechanics of successfully bending treated wood.

The Letter contains an article on another successful process--treatment of wood with chromated zinc chloride to protect it from decay and to reduce the fire hazard of structures in which treated wood is used. This development is important in national defense, and offers a new material for peacetime application.

Waterproof
Folding
Carton

Paper Industry and Paper World, December: A new type of waterproof folding carton, which protects the contents from giving off or absorbing moisture, will be used by the Chicago quartermaster depot to pack experimental army field rations. This food ration is said to have 3,725 calories concentrated into 32.86 ounces of food. The new packaging process is a thermoplastic, moisture-vapor resistant compound which, when applied to a folding carton, provides as effective a barrier across the seal and other cut edges as it does to unbroken surfaces.

Light Weight
Shipping
Containers

Paper Industry and Paper World, December: Modification of present interstate commerce regulations for shipping containers, allowing the use of lighter weight containers, has been put into effect. It is expected the new regulations will save about 10 percent of the tonnage of material previously used for such containers, thus adding over 250,000 tons of paper-board to the annual supply available to the corrugating industry.

Prefabricated
Housing Field

Modern Plastics, December, contains an article, Houses Off the Assembly Line, describing prefabricated houses. With the use of synthetic resin-bonded plywood as a basic building material, it says, prefabricated houses--complete even to window units--are turned out rapidly.

Studies on
Vitamin B-1
in Rice

Grain and Feed Journals, December 10: Preserving vitamin B-1 in rice by removing only the first break bran is the purpose of experiments at the University of Arkansas Medical School by Dr. P. A. Eschweiler. Studies on the riboflavin content of rice bran after various stages of milling have been made and will be published soon. Physicians at the school said they hoped funds collected under the new State rice promotion law might be used for experiments at the school. The law levies a tax of 2 cents per 100 pounds of milled rice for promotion of the product.

Golden Annual
Sweet Clover

Grain and Feed Journals, December 10: Work at the Iowa Experiment Station has shown that Golden annual sweet clover, sold in Iowa, is not of the same species as the common yellow varieties. It belongs to the species *Helilotus saueolens*. Golden annual will not cross with the common yellow sweet clover but will cross with Hubam, a common white variety.

Premiums for
Kansas Wheat

John H. Parker, director, Kansas Wheat Improvement Association, in Grain and Feed Journals, December 10: Ninety mills and elevators in 37 counties in Kansas have agreed to pay 2 cents premium for "certified" and "grade A" wheat of the varieties Turkey, Kanred, and Tenmarq. A similar plan was used last year by 60 mills and elevators in the State. This premium plan for wheat of varieties wanted by millers and bakers is relatively new in Kansas, but has been followed for 10 years in Indiana.

New Type Grain
Elevator Holds
4,000,000 Bus.

Grain and Feed Journals, December 10: A new type grain storage is an elevator recently completed in Fort Worth, Texas. A large interior open space, 122 by 230 feet, has been created by building an inclosing rectangle of 253 cylindrical bins 100 feet high. This interior flat storage can be used for sacked grain or mill products, or for bulk grain. The total capacity of the storage is 4,000,000 bushels.

Dust Explosion
Prevention

Grain and Feed Journals, December 10: Static electricity that sometimes ignites dust has been discouraged by damp weather. With freezing temperatures and consequent decreased humidity, however, operators must redouble their vigilance to prevent accumulation of dust.

Community Food
Locker Plants

Loren N. Baker, TVA agricultural economist, in Refrigerating Engineering, December, describes experiments and demonstrations in rural community locker plants, conducted during the past six years by the TVA in cooperating with the Extension Services and Divisions of Vocational Education in four Tennessee Valley States. The U. S. Department of Education, he says, is now preparing a publication on operation of community locker plants.

Midwest Dairy
Agreement

State Government, November: The Midwest Dairy Agreement, which has been signed by Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Tennessee and Wisconsin, is the result of efforts of these States to improve and make uniform standards applied to the dairy industry in the Middle West. States also have agreed to provisions which will eliminate dairy trade barriers and prevent such bars in the future.

Our Recent
Warm Winters

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, December 17:

For a good many years there has been a marked tendency for temperatures to persist above normal. A large majority of months, seasons, and years have had above-normal warmth since the turn of the century, especially during the last two decades. The current year has maintained this pattern to an outstanding degree. February and March has sub-normal temperatures in the East and Southeast; April in the Southwest and September in the far Northwest. Otherwise, the general trend has been above normal.

If we consider winters as mild to abnormally warm that have average temperatures from less than 1° below normal, upward, a large percent of those for the last 20 years may be so classed. The following stations show 17 to 19 of the 20 winters as mild to warm: Washington, D.C.; Atlanta, Ga.; Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; Columbus, Ohio; Des Moines, Iowa; St. Louis, and Kansas City, Mo.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Denver, Colo.; and Los Angeles, Calif.

Record Processed
Meats Production
in Packer Year

National Provisioner, November 29: Production of processed meats--sausage, loaves, canned meats and sliced bacon--under Federal inspection reached new peaks during the packer year ended October. The record-breaking rate at which American packers are turning out processed and canned meats is in response to needs of U.S. defense forces and Great Britain, as well as increased domestic demand resulting from improved consumer purchasing power.

Gains in output of canned meat products were most outstanding during the packer year just closed. Total production reached, 1,066,293,174 pounds compared with 721,244,198 pounds a year earlier. Volume of pork canned almost doubled, totaling 405,383,749 pounds compared with 272,704,946 pounds during the 1940 packer year.

Improve Farm
Woodlands With
87 Million Trees

Farmers and other landowners in 42 States and 2 territories cooperating under the Clarke-McNary and Norris-Doxey Laws started new woodlands on 136 square miles of land during 1940. The F. S. said 87,468,068 trees were planted. Although prices varied, such species as white ash, black locust, red oak, loblolly, longleaf, and slash pine sold in a number of states for as little as one dollar a thousand.

Federal appropriations were \$123,000 and use of trees was restricted to farm woodland, windbreak, and shelterbelt planting. Leading all other States, Georgia planted 13,400,000 trees, of which 10 million were slash-pine seedlings.

Cold Storage
Space Checked
For Defense

Refrigerated warehouses in the U.S. on the basis of a virtually complete survey, have a space of 766 million cubic feet in which to conserve perishable foods needed by a Nation at war, according to a survey by AMS at the request of OEM. Cold storage space as of June 16 this year--in the 1,879 units covered by the survey--was 766,383,000 cubic feet, 21 percent over 1921 and nearly 3 percent larger than 1939.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 57

Section 1

December 22, 1941

NATIONAL GARDEN CONFERENCE

A national conference December 19 to formulate plans for war garden effort, called by Secretary Wickard and Paul V. McNutt, Director of Defense Health and Welfare Service was attended by 250 representatives of garden associations and clubs; garden, daily and farm press and radio; seed, horticultural, and allied trade associations; and Government agencies. Principal speakers were Secretary Wickard, Administrator McNutt, Governor Prentice Cooper of Tennessee, Richardson Wright, editor, House and Garden, and Mrs. Ernest K. Lindley, representing Office of Civilian Defense.

Secretary Wickard said: "We need to proceed carefully. I do not think the Nation will benefit at present from a widespread, all-out campaign intended to put a vegetable garden in every city back yard or on every vacant lot. The national supply of fertilizer is almost sure to be scarce, because many of the chemicals which go into fertilizers also are needed to make munitions. The same is true of some of the commonly used insecticides and fungicides...It is ill-advised to plant a garden on poor soil such as will be found in many city back yards, where sub-soil from the cellar hole has become the topsoil, or where fills have been made with rocks, brickbats and cinders...Several months ago the free peoples of the world received a new inspiration from the symbol of V-for Victory. I think we might add a couple more V's in our planning for a national garden program. Let's make it the three V's-Vegetables for Vitality for Victory."

Recommendations for a "National Victory Garden Program" were presented December 20 to the National Defense Garden Conference by separate committees on farm vegetable gardens, farm fruit gardens, conservation and preservation of fruits and vegetables, community and school gardens, and conservation of lawns, flowers and shrubs. All committees recognized that the Food-for-Freedom program will insure plenty of food and vegetables for everybody, and recommended that the program be named "National Victory Garden Program".

URGES SCRAP IRON AND STEEL COLLECTION

Better Farm Equipment and Methods, November-December: The national Defense Program is threatened by actual and impending shortages of iron and steel scrap. Farms are one of the most important sources of scrap supply. With a ceiling price on scrap iron and steel, the government has worked out a map showing the approximate prices to be paid to farmers for No. 2 Steel Scrap at various basing points throughout the country.

Plastics from
Agricultural
By-Products

O. R. Sweeney, L. K. Arnold, and W. D. Harris, of Iowa State College, in Modern Plastics, December: "Because of Present scarcity of chemicals required for manufacture of certain synthetic resins, the outlook for utilization of natural products in plastics is more favorable than at any time in the past... Unfortunately, most natural plastics require small quantities of scarce chemicals for their preparation. If this handicap can be overcome, the year 1942 should see progress in the industrial conversion of agricultural residues into plastics."

Vitamins
in Meat

American Meat Institute release: Meats supply a great proportion of nutrition essentials in the diet of American soldier, according to recent figures of the Surgeon General of the Army. Proportions of various nutrients contributed daily by meats are as follows: Proteins, 43.4 percent; vitamin B₁ (thiamin), 33.4 (cooked basis); vitamin B₂ or G (riboflavin), 35.4; fat, 30.4; iron, 36.5; phosphorous, 31.0; energy, 16.5; vitamin A, 12.5; calcium, 4.0. Wide variety of other foods in army menus bring the percentage, in the case of each nutrient, up to 100 percent. The American soldier eats nearly a pound of meat per day.

British Food
Rationing
System

Howard Marshall, Director of Information in the British Food Ministry, who recently arrived in Washington from England, said lend-lease food from the United States has enabled the ministry to start a new point-rationing system which will give more nearly equitable distribution of rationed foods. Each housewife will be given, say 16 points per month, and each quantity of different kinds of food is given so many points which will be checked against the ration card. This enables British housewives to buy rationed foods at any grocery and does away with the old idea of registering with only one store and doing all the buying there. Arrival of American canned pork in quantity was the only thing that made it possible to start the new rationing system.

Damage by Rats
Totals Millions

In keeping with increasing importance of conservation of food and supplies in Canada's war effort, elimination of the brown rat becomes peremptory. It invades houses, stores, warehouses and markets; it destroys fabrics and leather destined for war equipment; it attacks all kind of food--grains, meats, groceries and vegetables. In town and country it attacks poultry, destroying eggs and chickens; it even damages the foundations of buildings.

One of the most satisfactory rat poisons is finely ground red squill. This product has the advantage of other commonly used poisons in that it is relatively harmless to human beings and domestic animals. Second in value to red squill is barium carbonate. (Dominion Dept. of Agriculture, Dec. 10)

Inter-American
Trade Pacts

Pan American News, December 4: Immediately following the U.S.-Argentine trade agreement, Canadian Trade Commissioner McKinnon and Argentina's Foreign Minister, Dr. Ruiz-Guinazu signed a new pact providing for reciprocal most-favored-nation treatment. Hitherto, trade relations between the two countries had

been based on the century-old-Anglo-Argentine treaty signed in 1825. For the moment, the new treaty will have little effect since Canada's chief pre-occupation is with war production. Yet it provides a basis for greater volume of trade in the post-war period.

The signing on November 21 of a protocol to the Brazilian-Argentine trade pact is probably of greater immediate significance. Mutual undertakings of the two countries may be summed up as follows: (1) progressive reduction of customs duties on major non-competitive agricultural products (such as wheat and wheat flour from Argentina; coffee, cocoa and yerba mate from Brazil); (2) duty-free entry, for a period of ten years, of new industrial products not heretofore manufactured by the two countries; and (3) improvement of communication facilities through construction of an international bridge over the Uruguay River.

Wickard On
National Food
Situation

Secretary Wickard says: The war gets under way at a time when farmers have just completed a record production year and are planning another record next year. The fact that we still have time to revise our production goals for 1942 before planting begins makes it possible to make increases where necessary. We are now studying these goals very carefully in the light of actual war and will plan increased production in any commodity or product where an increase appears advisable. There is little excuse for any substantial increase in the price of agricultural commodities at this time and we will do everything in our power to check speculative increases.

Total supplies of food are the largest on record, and are expected to reach a new high level in 1942. Good crops in 1941 and large Ever-Normal Granary supplies have built up large stocks of foodstuffs and feedstuffs. Supplies of high-protein feeds, grain, and hay are larger than a year ago. The supply of feed grains is the biggest in 20 years. The number of livestock on farms is increasing, and probably is about 5 percent larger than a year ago. With average pasture conditions in 1942, a material increase in livestock production is to be expected. The national farm program for next year is designed to increase food supplies for domestic use and for shipment abroad.

Xmas Greens
Net Farmers
\$10,000,000

The Department estimates American Farmers have sold about \$10,000,000 worth of native evergreens and berried plants for making wreaths and other Christmas decorations this season. S. B. Detwiler, SCS hillculturist, reports the Christmas "greens" industry has reached large proportions in at least half the States. Montana, Washington, and Oregon produce about half of the 10 million Christmas trees sold in America annually, while upper New England, the Lake States, and Canada supply the rest. Bulk of the decorative plants -- holly, laurel, Galax, creeping pine -- comes from the middle Atlantic and Southern States.

"T. A.." New
Dairy Product

American Milk Review, December: A dairy company in the New York area this fall introduced a new product called "T.A.," a mixture of tomato juice and acidophilus milk. The tomato juice hides the acidophilus taste, which some people consider unappetizing.

1941 Truck
Crop Acreage
Sets Record

The acreage of important truck crops harvested in 1941 for marketing fresh and for processing (excluding strawberries and early Irish potatoes) increased about 7 percent over 1940, and is largest reported acreage of record. A decrease of 1 percent in the acreage grown for the fresh market was more than offset by an increase of 15 percent in the acreage of vegetables for processing.

Facts About
U.S. Wine

F.G. in Agricultural Situation, December:
U.S. production of wine increased more than 80 percent during the first two years of World War II, increasing from less than 66 million gallons in 1938-39 to more than 122 million in 1940-41. U.S. exports of wine also have increased greatly during the last two years, whereas imports have been greatly reduced. Many varieties of wine grapes are produced in the U.S. Large quantities of U.S. wines are being carried in storage for aging and export to other countries which have been shut off from France and Italy by the war.

Fats and Oils
Situation

Domestic disappearance, or consumption, of primary fats and oils for 1941 is estimated at 11 billion pounds compared with 9.7 billion pounds in 1940. Supplies of fats and oils from domestic production, stocks and probable imports will be sufficient for domestic consumption and exports in 1942 at 1941 level, even if imports of oilseeds and oils from Pacific area are completely cut off. Under such circumstances, however, stocks would be reduced considerably during 1942, and substitution of domestic or Latin American fats and oils for such items as coconut, palm, and tung oils might be required for some uses.

Puerto Rican
Agriculture
Prosperous

Economic Review (Puerto Rico) November:
Agriculture in Puerto Rico, during the six or seven months ahead, faces the most prosperous year in more than a decade. The pineapple crop will be considerably larger than last year, probably around 500,000 crates. Prospects for export vegetables this winter also are very good. Tomato planters will probably increase their acreage enough to bring production to 250,000 crates. Forecast for cucumber exports is around 75,000 crates. On June 30 last (the latest estimate) farm income in Puerto Rico was estimated at 30 percent above the first six months of 1940.

1942 Farm
Programs

Agricultural Situation, December, contains articles setting forth highlights of the various agricultural programs for 1942. Department specialists discuss food-for-freedom, defense relations, soil conservation, farm security, commodity credit, farm credit, crop insurance, marketing farm products, and rural electrification for next year.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 58

Section 1

December 23, 1941

GUNS OR BUTTER OR BOTH?

Science Digest, January: If we expect to have butter along with guns we must be prepared for certain eventualities, warns Dr. Alfred W. Booth, University of Illinois geologist and geographer.

We consume enormous amounts of vegetable oils and fats — 71 pounds annually per capita, far more than any other people. We probably can produce at home enough animal oils and fats. But the outlook for those of vegetable origin is not so bright.

Some three and a half billion pounds of vegetable oils and fats were consumed in our factories in 1938. From the cottonseed we got about 46 percent. Most of the rest came from coconuts, oil palm nuts, flax seeds, soybeans, tung tree nuts, corn, peanuts, rape seed, perilla seeds, castor beans, babassu palm nuts. About half of these things are imported. The remedy: We must increase our domestic production. Many useful plants we cannot grow. Our best bet is cottonseed. Next is flax, for linseed, finally, more use should be made of the soybean.

SOUTH AMERICAN EGG EXPORTS TO U.S. INCREASE

Poultry Tribune, December: The higher levels of egg prices this fall have attracted considerable quantities of eggs from South American countries and also appear to have encouraged manufacture of egg substitutes in the United States. In two months, beginning in early September, more than 240,000 cases of eggs reached New York from South America, according to market reports. Most of these were from Argentina, but small shipments also were reported from Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay.

In the same period, the Federal Government purchased less than 140,000 cases of shell eggs. Government purchases of dried eggs, however, amounted to more than 1,500,000 cases.

CHEAPER MEAT CUTS NUTRITIONS

Butchers Advocate, December 3: The National Live Stock and Meat Board points out that many housewives are passing up less-demanded meat cuts which are as high in food value as so-called select cuts. These less-demanded meat cuts make up about 60 percent of the beef carcass, 48 percent of pork and 43 percent of the lamb carcass. These economy cuts are fully as nutritious and tasty as the most popular cuts.

Plan Record Pack
of Canning
Vegetables

The greatest supply of canned vegetables in the history of the country is to be produced to meet wartime needs under a program for 1942 announced by Secretary Wickard. Final goals provide for 1942 packs of: (1) 40,000,000 cases of canned tomatoes; (2) 38,000,000 cases of canned peas; (3) 12,500,000 cases of canned snap beans; (4) 24,000,000 cases of canned corn. Secretary Wickard said that these quantities should provide the Nation with sufficient supplies to meet needs of increased domestic consumption in 1942-43, as well as meet military, school-lunch, and lend-lease requirements, and provide for normal carryovers into the next season.

The Department, through the Marketing Administrator, will purchase all 1942 canned tomatoes offered through December 31, 1942, and all 1942 canned peas offered through October 31, 1942, at base prices of: (a) 95¢ per dozen No. 2 cans, f.o.b. cannery, for U.S. Grade C canned tomatoes, and (b) \$1.10 per dozen No. 2 cans, Alaskas or Sweets, f.o.b. cannery, for U.S. Grade C canned peas, provided the canner has been certified by USDA State Defense Boards as having agreed by contract with growers to pay at least the minimum price in their locality. Such minimum prices shall be not less than \$5 per ton for tomatoes and \$17.50 per ton for peas, over the comparable average 1940 prices found by the board to have been paid to growers in its State.

Dairy Products
Goals Announced

Estimated totals of cheese, evaporated milk, and dry skim milk needed to meet war-time needs in 1942 have been announced. The Department will extend assistance, in obtaining priorities and in financing, to cooperatives which want to increase their facilities and which are approved by the Agricultural Marketing Administrator. Assistance on a similar basis will be given privately-owned plants with respect to priorities and tax amortization. The Department estimates that 1942 production should be at least 3,500,000,000 pounds (82,000,000 cases) of evaporated milk; 525,000,000 pounds of dry skim milk for human consumption; and 900,000,000 pounds of American cheese. This represents increases over the estimated 1941 production of 20 percent for evaporated milk, 46 percent for dry skim milk, and 33 percent for American cheese.

1941 Acreage
and Production
of Crops

The year 1941 was unusually favorable for crop production, primarily because of above-normal rainfall in West. Crop yields per acre were the highest on record, averaging 2 percent above yields in 1940 and 21 percent above the 1923-32 or predrought average. Yields appear to have been at least fairly good in all parts of the country except Western Gulf Coast, South Carolina, and smaller scattered areas, including southeastern Nebraska, southeastern South Dakota, and northern New York.

Wheat, averaging 18.9 bushels per acre, seems to be the only important crop that set a new high record of yield, but yields of corn, tobacco, potatoes, sugar beets, beans, and soybeans have been exceeded only once or twice in the last 70 years and yields of oats, barley, grain sorghums, rye, buckwheat, flaxseed, cotton, hay, and peanuts were at levels reached

only in unusually favorable seasons. Rice was the only important field crop showing below-average yield. Acreage planted or used for the 46 principal field crops was about same as in 1940 but acreage lost from crop failure was lowest in more than 10 years.

British Use
Kitchen Waste To
Feed Stock

Estate Magazine (London, November): A supply of kitchen waste for stock feeding is being developed by a Waste Food Board appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture. Raw kitchen waste has been available in increasing quantities to stock keepers who are within easy reach of urban areas, but it is too bulky and expensive to transport a considerable distance. Another problem in transport of raw swill is risk of spreading animal diseases.

The Waste Food Board is arranging in more populous areas for installation of plants that will produce concentrated and sterilized kitchen waste. This material has substantially lower water content than the raw product, keeps for 10 to 14 days, is cheaper to transport, and easier to handle. Farmers will have the first call on the concentrated kitchen waste, at prices of 4 to 5 pounds a ton, and will be saved the trouble and expense of boiling swill on their farms.

Egg Legislation
in United States

R. L. Butler, L. A. Wilhelm, and R. B. Thompson, Oklahoma Experiment Station, in U.S. Egg and Poultry Magazine, December: "There is perhaps no other agricultural commodity which is so widely produced as eggs, nor one in which grading and marketing are in such a state of confusion. The statute books of the 48 States contain egg laws of many types varying from those of negative value to sound constructive laws...After reviewing laws and regulations pertaining to eggs in various States, there are several recommendations that could profitably be inculcated: (1) All eggs should be bought 'loss off'; (2) ungraded eggs should be labeled as 'unclassified eggs'; (3) eggs to be sold only as 'unclassified' or by designated grade — either State or Federal, (4) eggs should be handled, packed, held and sold in a sanitary manner; (5) all eggs should be cooled below 60°F. within 24 hours after purchase and maintained below that temperature."

Markets for
Farm Woodlot
Products

New England Homestead, December 13: Calling attention to the best markets and demand in years for farm woodlot products, A. D. Nutting, forester in the Maine Extension Service, says this is a good time for farmers to sell lumber, firewood, and rough pulpwood of grades that are usually not in demand.

Rough box-board pine is now moving well in many sections, rough pulpwood is being bought at several mills; and firewood is selling at good prices. Present supplies indicate considerable green wood will sell this year. Healthy spruce should not be cut when less than 9 inches on the stump. Healthy hardwood and hemlock should be larger.

Milk Before
Calving

Electricity on the Farm, December: Professors Davis and Trimberger of the University of Nebraska have found that milking a cow for a week before calving lessened the shock at parturition and resulted in not a single case of milk fever following calving.

Canada TestsParachutesMade of Nylon

Orders have been placed by the Dominion Government for fourteen nylon man-carrying parachutes. Nylon fabric for parachute purposes has already passed tests of the National Research Council at Ottawa and the fourteen parachutes will be produced for complete tests to determine performance under exacting conditions of service. Stocks of raw silk available in Canada for production of parachutes are relatively small and it is expected that large quantities of nylon yarns will be used in parachute fabrics. (Canadian Textile Journal, November 21)

To Meet 1942Goals forEgg Production

Extensioner (Texas A & M College) November: To increase egg production in 1942: (1) fill houses to capacity; (2) remodel old laying houses and idle buildings to increase efficiency and hen capacity; (3) buy chicks from reliable hatcheries or breeders who are carrying on an improvement program; (4) feed complete ration of high quality ingredients; (5) provide succulent green food; (6) use sanitary methods and protect birds against internal and external parasites.

Sugar Beetsin Louisiana

Farm and Ranch, December: Sugar beets grown on the sugar-cane land of a Louisiana plantation produced 900 pounds more sugar to the acre than the sugar cane in 1941, by tests of Louisiana State University. Louisiana sugar men watching the experiment saw significance to the Louisiana sugar industry in the results. There are seventy-one sugar houses in Louisiana. With comparatively minor changes in equipment, they can handle sugar beets as readily as they handle sugar cane, it is said.

OTOE, NewOat Variety

R. I. Throckmorton, Kansas State College, in Country Gentleman, December: The Nebraska Experiment Station, in cooperation with the USDA, has approved distribution of a new variety of oats named Otoe. The new variety has high yielding capacity, good straw, and is early in maturing. It has shown considerable resistance to smut and is resistant to stem rust.

In plot tests at Lincoln, Nebraska, over seven years, Otoe was one of the highest yielding varieties and produced an average yield of 45.1 bushels per acre, while Kherson, the standard variety, produced an average of 38.0 per acre.

Bovine Plasma
for Transfusion

Modern Medicine, December: Treatment of beef blood plasma and serum with human red blood cells before transfusion reduces danger of agglutination or hemolysis of red blood cells in the patient, according to Dr. Arnold J. Kremen, University of Minnesota Medical School. Unfavorable reactions occurred in 24.5 percent of cases in which beef serum was treated before transfusion, as compared to 52 percent of cases in which beef serum was untreated.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 59

Section 1

December 24, 1941

U.S.-CANADIAN PRODUCTION PROGRAM

Times Herald, December 24: The United States and Canada last night embarked on a joint "all-out war production effort," a program that President Roosevelt said will demonstrate the continent of North America can outproduce the industrial machine of Hitler. The program, calling for pooling of raw materials and productive facilities and removal of hindering tariff barriers, was drafted by the joint U.S.-Canadian committee set up last year to study problems of supply. Mr. Roosevelt said he had instructed Milo Perkins, chairman of the U.S. committee, to investigate with Government agencies "the extent to which legislative changes will be necessary to give full effect to the program."

U.S.-CUBAN SUPPLEMENTAL TRADE PACT

Washington Post, December 24: Two provisions of special importance to war were included in a supplemental trade agreement signed yesterday in Havana between the United States and Cuba. One brought the U.S.-Cuban agreement up to date to include "a specific reservation regarding measures adopted for the protection of ... essential interests in time of war or other national emergency." The second reduced the duty on Cuban sugar from 90 cents per 100 pounds to 75 cents, because of what the State Department termed "the desirability, particularly in light of emergency created by the Axis powers, of maintaining Cuba's position as a supplier of sugar to the United States market." Cuba granted concessions on 38 U.S. products. The U.S. granted concessions on various products, the principal ones being sugar, molasses, tobacco, cigars, and fresh, chilled, or frozen beef and veal.

POULTRY, EGG SITUATION

The seasonal low point in farm marketings of eggs has passed, says BAE. With favorable weather, egg production will increase until next April and will be much larger than a year earlier. On December 1, average rate of lay per hen was highest on record for date, 10 percent higher than same date last year. Number of layers on farms was 7 percent larger than December 1, 1940, making total egg output on December 1, 1941, about 17 percent larger than last year.

"SALVAGE FOR VICTORY" CAMPAIGN

Paper Trade Journal, December 18: An appeal to every American to join a Salvage for Victory Campaign has been issued by L. J. Rosenwald, chief, Bureau of Industrial Conservation. Mr. Rosenwald called upon the public to begin immediately to save for war production all waste paper, rags, metals, and old rubber.

Vitamins
in Medical
Treatments

Lack of vitamin C causes operative wounds to heal poorly and leaves them more subject to rupture, in the opinion of Dr. John B. Hartzell and Dr. William E. Stone, Wayne University College of Medicine, Detroit. Growth of cancer in mice was prevented by intravenous injections of yeast extract combined with pantothenic acid or riboflavin, in experiments by Dr. R. Lewisohn and associates of Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City.

Sweet Clover
For Seed

R. I. Throckmorton, Kansas State College, in Country Gentleman, December: Difficulties encountered in production of sweet-clover seed because of lack of uniformity in maturing have been overcome, at least in the Madrid variety, by growing the crop in rows. When sweet clover is close drilled or broadcast, the plants usually vary in maturity from the blossom to the dry seed-pod stage. Growing the crop in rows permits light to penetrate to the lower branches and maturing is uniform.

Farmers are taking advantage of this method because it enables them to harvest the crop with a combine. In addition to insuring uniform ripening, this method has resulted in high yields of seed.

Fertilization
of Lakes
Increase Fish

Science Digest, January: Fertilizing lakes to increase growth of fishes is being tried by Dr. Chancey Juday, University of Wisconsin. Organic fertilizers, such as soybean meal and cotton-seed meal, are tried in soft water lakes. The crop of plants in the lakes, which consists of plankton upon which fish feed, has considerable size and value, Dr. Juday's investigations showed. Expressed in terms of an equivalent amount of glucose, the productivity of seven lakes in August ranged from 12 to 30 pounds per acre.

Turkey Marketing
"Goes Modern"

"Methods of preparing turkeys for market and marketing them definitely have 'gone modern.' Although smaller producers still dress their birds by dry pick or semi-scald methods, new developments have come on the market to interest larger producers. Many of these modern methods are helping smaller producers. Picking machines represent a recent development in turkey dressing. These machines are proving quite practical. In larger plants, they reduce by two to four the number of persons required to operate the killing and picking line.

"Quick freeze refrigeration is constantly increasing in popularity. It is probable that in time practically all poultry will be marketed full dressed. A new latex product has been developed to form a covering for quick frozen turkeys. This consists of a very thin but tough latex bag in which the bird is sealed. This seals in the moisture and natural flavors and seals out undesirable odors and flavors." (Poultry Tribune, December)

Select Poultry
Breeders Now

Electricity on the Farm, December: This is the month for selecting breeders from the poultry flock for 1941, F. P. Jeffrey, New Jersey College of Agriculture, reminds flock owners.

"When selecting breeders at this time of year, remember many good

birds have begun to molt, and some yearly molters have completed their molt and started to lay again. Any bird which has completed her molt and resumed laying should not be selected as a breeder.

"The best birds are those which continue to lay late in the fall, and they may be classified as follows: Very good - those still laying without showing any evidence of molt; good - those laying and molting at the same time; and satisfactory - those which are not laying but which are molting rapidly. This, of course, applies to birds hatched during April and May."

Vitamin D
Helps Prevent
Teeth Cavities

Science Digest, January: Approximately two-thirds of cavities that occur in permanent teeth of children can be prevented by addition of natural forms of vitamin D to an otherwise adequate diet, according to Dr. Ewing C. McBeath, professor of dentistry, Columbia University. Dr. McBeath's findings are based on a study of 250 school children, divided into groups of about 50 each.

The group receiving no added Vitamin D showed an increase of 4.5 new decayed permanent tooth surfaces per child, while the group receiving a daily supplement of 800 units of cod liver oil Vitamin D during the same period developed an average of only 1.65 decayed surfaces per child. The number of decayed surfaces per child in a group receiving 400 units of cod liver oil Vitamin D was 2.48; in the group receiving 800 units of viosterol the count also was 2.48; and in the group receiving 3200 units of viosterol it was 2.27.

Sweet Potato
Dehydration

A. B. Bryan, in Country Gentleman, December: Porto Rico sweet potatoes can be dehydrated and ground into a flour not subject to spoilage under usual storage practices, and excess and cull potatoes can be made into a dehydrated product highly palatable to livestock and high in pro-vitamin A, studies by the South Carolina Experiment Station, under E. J. Lease and J. H. Mitchell, show.

Sweet-potato flour prepared from Porto Rico sweet potatoes averaged 130 micrograms carotene per gram, equivalent to 217 International Units of vitamin A potency of the products, and practically all the potency was present after the foods were stored for three weeks. Cows increased the vitamin A and carotene content of their milk when sweet-potato flour was added to a ration low in vitamin A. Chicks stored considerable vitamin A in their livers when fed a low vitamin A ration plus sweet-potato flour.

Fertilizer
Recommendations

American Fertilizer, December 6: The Subcommittee on Fertilizer Ratios, American Society of Agronomy, recently made the following recommendations: (1) that grades of mixed fertilizer containing less than 8 units of nitrogen, or potash, or the two together, be removed from recommended lists and price lists; (2) that attention be given to a ratio system, with the idea that ultimately all grades follow accepted ratios; (3) that for grades in which value is claimed for minor elements, the quantities be guaranteed; (4) only where cooperation between the industry and agronomists fails to result in sale of grades considered necessary by agronomists, shall grades appear on recommended lists not offered for sale in the state concerned.

Says Prairie
States Forestry
Plan Successful

"The gigantic windbreak of living trees, designed to eliminate the Dust Bowl and restore a rich agricultural area in the Great Plains region from the Canadian border to central Texas, has already surpassed the original plans for the program started in 1934" says Earl Minderman in Farm and Ranch, December. "The end of 1941 marks the completion of a seven-year battle to combat the high velocity winds which were wreaking havoc in the farm lands of the Dakotas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Kansas and Northwest Texas..."

"Large numbers of farmers who deserted the area in the early thirties have returned to their homes and are enjoying thriving fields of rye, wheat, corn forage crops, truck gardens, poultry pens and berry patches... The success with which the shelterbelt has combated wind and dust answers early criticism that the Prairie States Forestry Project would prove impractical."

Two Awards
for Vitamin
Research

Science Service release, December 5: For pioneering with vitamins as life-saving chemicals that have cut the hidden hunger death rate from 50 percent to 0, Dr. Tom Douglas Spies, University of Cincinnati School of Medicine and Hillman Hospital, Birmingham, Ala., has been presented the Award of Distinction of the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association. The award is made each year to a scientist who has made a fundamental contribution to public health in the field of drug therapy. Dr. Spies was among the first to use nicotinic acid to save patients from pellagra.

Science Service release, December 2: The Charles W. Chandler Medal of Columbia University is awarded this year to Dr. Robert R. Williams, chemical director, Bell Telephone Laboratories, and his brother, Dr. Roger J. Williams, Professor of chemistry, University of Texas for researches in biochemistry. Dr. Robert Williams received the Elliott Cresson medal last year for researches on vitamin B-1. In collaboration with other scientists, Dr. Roger Williams synthesized pantothenic acid, another essential vitamin, and discovered the eighth B vitamin, folic acid.

British Point
System for
Food Rationing

The Economist (London, November 8): The point system for tinned foods (recently announced in Britain) follows exactly the same principle as that governing clothing coupons. A high proportion of supplies covered by new point pricing schedule is represented by imports from U.S. under lend-lease agreement. Importance of the new scheme lies in the prospect it opens up of controlled distribution of all foods offered for sale. Once basic food rations have been distributed by this method, there is a strong case for bringing all other foods within scope of a point scheme.

Cuban Use
of Export
Import Loan

Pan American News, December 4: A law authorizing a \$25,000,000 loan from the U.S. Export-Import Bank was signed by President Batista November 21. The money will go for highway repair, construction of new highways and aqueducts, and an agricultural diversification program involving improvement of the irrigation system.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 60

Section 1

December 26, 1941

NEW METHOD AIDS FOOD SHIPMENT OVERSEAS

New York Journal of Commerce, December 26:

The first shipment of "self-refrigerated" meats from the United States to Britain, in ordinary ship space instead of customary refrigerated chambers, reached its destination in good condition after many days at sea. According to the meat trade, it marks an important development in shipment of foods to overseas markets, especially in view of present scarcity of refrigerated vessels.

In preparing the meat for shipment by the new method, says the American Meat Institute, it was boxed, frozen to very low temperature, and placed in the ship hold. Instead of the usual insulation, the ship bottom and sides were insulated with lard that also had been boxed and frozen, the hold then being sealed by placing on top of the boxed meat more boxed frozen lard. Lard also is urgently needed by Britain. No refrigerating machinery was used on the ship.

George A. Schmidt, chairman, American Meat Institute, said: "No matter whether or not refrigerated ships are available, the United States can deliver meat to England in good condition. This new method eases shortage of refrigerated space and releases space for carrying other perishable food products. It will assist in keeping the people of the United Kingdom well supplied with meat."

MILLIONTH TON OF U. S. FOOD REACHES BRITAIN

The British Food Mission has advised Secretary Wickard that the millionth ton of American food being shipped to Great Britain under lend-lease arrived safely. The Right Honorable R. H. Brand,

head of the British Food Mission in the United States, wrote: "I have received from Lord Woolton, Minister of Food, a telegram to the following effect: 'I am informed that arrivals of lend-lease foodstuffs have just passed the million ton mark. Please convey my hearty congratulations and grateful thanks to Mr. Wickard and the Department of Agriculture.' "The letter came to me," Secretary Wickard said, "because I happen to be Secretary of Agriculture, but the expressions of appreciation are for American farmers who have made possible this splendid record."

FARM COMMODITY BUYING OVER \$73,000,000

Agricultural commodities bought by SMA during November, under lend-lease and other needs, reached a value of more than \$73,000,000. November buying brought the total March 15 through November 30 to

more than \$500,000,000 for the F.O.B. commodity cost, not including handling and transportation.

Holly
Hobby

Helen Van Pelt Wilson, in Country Gentleman, December: Earl Dilatush, of Robbinsville, N. J., makes a hobby of collecting hollies. "For years," he says, "trees of mine have been thriving in Maine, around Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire, at Lake Placid, in the Catskills, and at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Unless summer temperatures remain many days above 100 degrees or winter cold stays at zero or below, my American hollies can take it. They have a far wider range of tolerance than folks generally believe."

There is no need for vandalism in holly woods at Christmas, since almost everybody can have his own holly for holiday pruning. Native specimens appear in the woods from Massachusetts to Florida and west to Missouri and Texas, while tame stock flourishes all through this section and also in most of Ohio and Missouri, half of Indiana and Illinois, the southwest tip of Michigan, and sections of Kansas and Oklahoma. Near sea level holly stands cold better than in altitudes of 12,000 feet above. Yet even high up it will endure other untoward conditions if protected from winds on the north and east by buildings or other trees like hemlocks.

Food Transport
in Britain

The Economist (London, November 8): The success of the Ministry of War Transport's drive to economize food transport by elimination of cross hauls and curtailment of long-distance traffic depends largely on the enterprise of the ministries concerned, i.e., Ministry of Food, Board of Trade, Ministry of Works and Buildings, and Supply Departments of the fighting forces. The Ministry of Food has issued an order enabling it to control more closely transport of food and animal feeding stuffs, which should improve distribution of food and feeding stuffs as well as saving transport.

British Milk
Rationing

The Economist (London) November 8: The winter milk shortage has officially begun (in Britain). All retail milk sales (except those by producer-retailers in towns of less than 30,000 inhabitants) must be cut by 5 percent compared with the week ended October 25. At the same time comes news of the first distribution of rationed condensed milk. It is difficult to estimate precisely how heavy is the average cut which must be imposed on consumers outside the priority classes (whose consumption is not to be disturbed) in order to produce a general 5 percent cut. It will probably range between 7 and 10 percent.

Articles on
Wool, N.Y.
Milkshed

Harvard Business Review, Winter, contains the following articles: The Current Status of Wool textiles, by Arthur Besse, president, National Association of Wool Manufacturers; The Dairyman's Plight, by Everett Case, assistant dean, Harvard Business School. Mr. Besse surveys governmental policies in regard to the wool industry, particularly as related to possible post-war developments. Mr. Case discusses the New York milkshed, and milk marketing order.

Seek Tin,
Lead Foil
Substitutes

Southern Tobacco Journal, December: With orders from D. M. Nelson, director of priorities, to discontinue use of tin or lead foil for wrappers and packages after March 15, cigarette manufacturers are studying possible substitutes. He said the tobacco industry used about 85 percent of the tin and lead foil consumed, most of it going into cigarette packaging.

The Journal also says: Cigarettes packaged with both foil and cellophane omitted lost 67 percent of the original moisture content after exposure for 120 hours to an atmosphere dried with calcium chloride, according to a study by the National Bureau of Standards. As part of a research project to conserve materials vital to national defense, the efficacy of waterproofed cellophane and of metal foil used in cigarette packages as moisture barriers was studied.

High-Grade White
Paper from Pulp
of Sweetgum

M. W. Bray and J. S. Martin, U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, in Paper Trade Journal, December 18, report experiments show that the sweetgum tree is easily fiberized to produce a bleachable pulp of comparatively high yield and with properties suitable for a wide variety of high-grade white papers. Although the soda process can be satisfactorily applied to this species of tree, they say, the sulphate process, or its modification, the soda-sulphur process, gives better results in both yield and bleach economy.

Writing Paper
From Cotton
By-Products

Paper Trade Journal, December 18: Fine bond and writing papers can now be made from such cotton by-products as hull shavings and waste from ginning, carding, and other cotton-cleaning operations, through a commercial chemical, sodium chlorite, according to a paper manufacturer of Dalton, Mass. Previous efforts to make fine paper direct from raw cotton fibers had failed, the manufacturer said, because there was no way to clean the fibers without using a chemical that weakened them and made them unfit for paper manufacture.

Farm-Home Talks,
Week of Dec. 29

Among radio talks scheduled for the week of December 29 are the following: December 29--More Grain, More Milk, T. E. Woodward, BDI, and Einar Jensen, BAE; December 30--American Agriculture Mobilizes; December 31--Gardens for Victory, H. W. Hochbaum, Extension.

Report on
Interstate
Truck Bars

Domestic Commerce, December 18: The Department of Commerce has just released a report by the interdepartmental Committee on Interstate Trade Barriers, containing more than 200 cases of delays in the shipment of vital articles to United States defense projects or to manufacturers engaged in production for such projects. The report, the Effect of State Laws Which Create Barriers to Interstate Motor Trucking on the National Defense Program, was undertaken to obtain a sample of the adverse effects of non-uniform size and weight laws on the emergency program.

Enriched Flour,
Bread Are
Natural Foods

R. M. Wilder, M.D., chairman, Committee on Food and Nutrition, in Bakers Digest, December: Enriched flour and bread are foods intended for general use, made more "natural" than the plain white flour and bread they should displace. Their contents of thiamin, nicotinic acid, and iron are no greater than those of whole wheat products; so in no sense are they medicated. Enriched flour does not equal whole wheat in its content of some of the minerals and vitamins. However, recent analyses of unenriched white flour reveal that riboflavin (vitamin B-2), pyridoxine (vitamin B-6), pantothenic acid, and probably also biotin are preserved in the process of milling to a considerable degree. Therefore, enriched white flour approaches the nutritive values of whole wheat to a greater extent than was supposed.

Australian
Cold-Storage
Program

Australian Milk & Dairy Products Journal, October: The Australian Government is planning a long-term cold storage scheme designed to convert Australia into an Empire larder. The scheme, to cost from 500,000 to 1,000,000 pounds, will be financed by Commonwealth and State governments and private enterprise. The plan includes provision of additional refrigerated space at butter factories, distributing centers, and main ports to enable producers to maintain output pending resumption of Australia's trade with the United Kingdom on a normal scale.

British
Food Depots

Modern Refrigeration (London, November): The policy of the Minister of Food in scattering in different parts of the country (not necessarily in town areas) new refrigerated depots, is calculated to thwart the enemy air raider. The later policy of limiting the size and increasing the number of these stores must further reduce air risk on perishable food stocks of the country.

Urges Post
War Food
Planning

H. Belshaw, professor of economics, Auckland University College in New Zealand Dairy Exporter, November 1: After the war there will be immediate need to feed Europe and to replenish livestock, especially in western Europe. The main elements in the situation are: (1) The problem of marketing surpluses, feeding Europe, and rehabilitating European agriculture when war ends; (2) likelihood of a boom in agricultural industries when once the immediate marketing program is overcome; (3) danger that this will be followed by a serious slump when restocking of European agriculture is approaching completion and surplus productive capacity is revealed.

"Salvage for
Victory"
Campaign

Paper Trade Journal, December 18: An appeal to every American to join a Salvage for Victory Campaign has been issued by L. J. Rosenwald, chief, Bureau of Industrial Conservation. Mr. Rosenwald called upon the public to begin immediately to save for war production all waste paper, rags, metals, and old rubber.